

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL.

OF

Politics and General Literature.

[VI.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1822.

[No. 311]

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—781—

Politics of Europe.

CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT OF IRELAND—TITHES NOT PROPERTY.

The true principle with respect to your peasantry, is exoneration; and if I could not take the burden entirely off their back, I would make it as light as possible. I would exempt the peasant's cow and garden from tithes: if I could not make him rich, I would do the next thing in my power; I would consider his poverty as sacred, and protect, against an extortioner, the hallowed circle of his little boundary.—Mr. GRATTAN.

That the present Church Establishment of Ireland, and the manner in which it is supported, form one of the most powerful obstacles to the tranquillity, happiness, and improvement of that country, is a proposition which has been repeatedly demonstrated, and which is, indeed, almost self-evident. It appears from a census taken last year, that Ireland contains very near seven millions (6,846,949) of inhabitants; and we have the concurrent authority of all the writers best acquainted with the state of Ireland, as Dr. Beaufort, Mr. Newenham, Mr. Wakefield, Mr. Tighe, and others, for stating that, at the very least, six millions of the inhabitants are Catholics; and that the remaining million is about equally divided between the members of the established church and the presbyterian dissenters. Now, without presuming to question the propriety of making the religion of so small a fraction of the population the established religion of the country, it is surely impossible to deny that the number of established clergymen, and the revenues destined for their support, ought to be made to bear some reasonable proportion to the number of their flocks, and the extent and laboriousness of their duties. These considerations have, however, been entirely overlooked in Ireland. The 500,000 Lutherans of that Island have an establishment which costs the people nearly as much as the establishment for nine millions of Lutherans costs the people of England. In England there are twenty-six Archbishops and Bishops; and in Ireland there are twenty-two! And we learn from Mr. Wakefield (vol. ii. p. 470.) that exclusive of their other revenues, which are very large, the estates belonging to five only of these dignitaries would, if fairly let, and properly managed, bring £530,000 a year, or nearly twice as much as the entire revenue of the whole English Bishops! The real rental of the whole landed property belonging to the Irish Bishops may be moderately estimated at one million a-year. Nor is this all. Besides these twenty-two overgrown and bloated sinecurists, there are in Ireland upwards of 1300 beneficed clergymen possessing individual incomes, averaging from £700 to £800 a-year; forming an aggregate income of about a million, or above three times the income of the whole established clergy of Scotland!

The shameful abuse of the system of pluralities has enabled many of the beneficed clergy to accumulate incomes equal, and sometimes superior to those of the Bishops. The returns of the clergy holding livings in the diocese of Armagh, quoted by Mr. Hume in his manly and excellent speech on this subject, on Wednesday se'night, exhibit the rapacity of the Irish clergy in a way that cannot fail to astonish the generality of our readers. We learn from these returns, that the Reverend Sir Thomas Foster has 4,670 acres of glebe in one parish, besides the tithes

of 12,000 acres in another! The Reverend Sir C. Beresford has two rectories, one of which has 4,090 acres of land, and the other 1200! The Knox's appear to have a pretty extensive monopoly of these good things. The Honorable Charles Knox has four livings, in one of which there are 529 acres of glebe; the Honorable William Knox has two capital livings; and the Honorable Spencer Knox has three rectories, one of which has 400 acres of glebe! Well might Mr. Wakefield say, that the Irish Church Establishment was not an instrument of religion, but a political lever in the hands of government, with the power of which persons in England were not in the least acquainted. It would, indeed, be worse than idle, to set about proving by argument the inutility, corruption, and oppressiveness of such an establishment. The Lutherans of Ireland bear about the same proportion to the population of that country, that the Catholics of Great Britain bear to its population; and we put it to our readers and the public to say how they would feel, were the actual property of a tenth part of the land of Scotland and England, and a tenth part of the produce of the remainder taken from them, and exclusively set apart to maintain the clergy of the Catholic religion in all the pomp and pride of eastern Satraps? Is it not certain that any attempt to establish so monstrous a system in this country would nerve the arm of every man, and be the signal for the most violent commotions? And yet, oppressive and arbitrary as such an establishment would most undoubtedly be, it is plain it could be in no respect more so to us, than the existing establishment is to the people of Ireland.

The mode of managing the Church lands, which are estimated at a ninth or a tenth of the whole surface of Ireland, opposes an invincible obstacle to their improvement. Neither capital nor labour are ever expended on them, except for the sake of an immediate return; and even a stranger in passing through Ireland can readily distinguish the church lands by their impoverished condition, and by the indolence and total want of all enterprise of the tenants by whom they are occupied. The Bishop renews his lease every two or three years, and sometimes every year. The fine or *grassum* upon the renewal is always regulated according to the actual value of the farm. The farmer who makes an improvement, labours for the benefit of the Bishop, and not of himself. Instead of meeting with encouragement, the tenant who lays out capital on a farm is invariably obliged to pay a proportionally higher fine next renewal. It is a consequence of this destructive practice that no houses, if we are not to apply that appellation to a set of miserable mud huts, are ever built on Episcopal property. The want of all leases of considerable duration, the shortsightedness of the Bishops, and either their own insatiable rapacity, or that of their agents, have thus effectually checked the improvement and palsied the productive powers of some of the noblest and most extensive estates in the empire; and to such an excess have the abuses in question attained, that they are stated by a very competent judge, Mr. Dennis Browne, M. P. for Kilkenny, in his recent letter to Lord Wellesley, (p. 14), to be one of the leading causes of the poverty and barbarism of Ireland.

But these are not the worst features of the Irish Church Establishment. A great proportion of the incomes of the beneficed clergy are derived from tithes levied on the corn, cattle, poultry, pigs, potatoes, of the poor Catholic cotters. Now mark the im-

partiality and regard to justice which distinguishes this system! While the potatoe garden of the poor cottier, who has another priesthood to support, is tithed to the utmost, the parks and demesnes of the Protestant nobility and gentry, and the flocks of the opulent grazier, are totally exempted from this charge! So gross and scandalous a violation of justice, of policy, and of common sense, has never been exhibited in any other country in Europe, not even in Turkey. The vote of the Irish House of Commons in 1735, by which grass lands were exempted from tithe, and which, consequently, threw the established clergy almost exclusively on the Catholic peasantry for support, has been the inexhaustible source of riot, bloodshed, and murder, *Hoc fonte derivata clades in patriam populumque fluxit*. It was not in the nature of things that the peasantry could quietly submit to be made the victims of such unparalleled injustice and extortion. The levying of the tithe of potatoes in Munster—a tithe to which the clergy resorted to indemnify themselves for the loss of the tithe on grass lands—led the famous Whiteboy insurrection; and from that epoch down to the present moment, the tithe system has been productive of the most implacable animosities, and of ceaseless outrages and murders.

It has been urged as an apology for the tithe system, that the clergy are exceedingly moderate in their demands, and that instead of a tithe they rarely get a twentieth part of the produce. We believe the latter part of this statement to be perfectly true; and we think it affords a strong argument in favour of a commutation. The clergy do not get the whole of the tithe; but the question is not whether they get it, but whether the occupiers of the soil pay it? Owing, partly, to the prevalence of non-residence, and partly to the extreme division and subdivision of land in Ireland, the clergy universally let their tithes to a farmer or proctor. It is idle, then, to tell us that the clergy do not get their full tithe. It is not with the clergy, but with their proctor, that the occupiers of the soil have to deal; and, instead of its being true that the proctor's demands are moderate, and that he is contented with less than what the letter of the law gives him a right to claim, the very reverse is the fact. The proctor is a harpy who preys on both the clergy and the public. He gives too little to the one, and takes too much from the other. His business is to enrich himself by fraud and plunder. "In free countries," said the great patriot of Ireland, the illustrious GRATTAN, "the farming of the revenue is not permitted. You would not allow it to the King, and you ought not to allow it to the Church. It is an evil in politics, but a scandal in religion; and the more dangerous in the latter, because tithe being indefinite, the latitude of extortion is indefinite. The use of the tithe farmer is to get from the parishioner what the parson would be ashamed to demand, and to enable the parson to absent himself from his duty; the powers of the tithe-farmer are summary laws and ecclesiastical courts; his livelihood is extortion; his rank in society is generally the lowest; and his occupation is to pounce on the poor in the name of the Lord! He is a species of wolf left by the shepherd to take care of the flock in his absence. He fleeces both, and begins with the parson. A tenth of your land, your labour, and your capital, to those who contribute in no shape whatever to the produce, must be oppression; they only think otherwise who suppose that every thing is little which is given to the parson; that no burden can be heavy, if it is the weight of the parson; that landlords should give up their rents, and tenants the profits of their labour, and all too little; but uncertainty aggravates their oppression; the full tenths even must be uncertain as well as oppressive; for, it is the fixed proportion of a fluctuating quantity, and unless the High Priest can give law to the winds, and ascertain the harvest, the tithe, like that harvest, must be uncertain. Now, this uncertainty is aggravated by the pernicious motives on which tithe frequently rises and falls. It frequently rises on the poor; it falls in compliment to the rich. It proceeds on principles the reverse of the gospel; it encroaches to the strong, and it encroaches on the feeble; and is guided by the two worst principles in society, servility and avarice united, against the cause of charity, and under the cloak of religion."—(GRATTAN'S Speeches, vol. ii. pp. 44-45.)

No one has ever presumed to call in question the efficiency of the Scottish national establishment; and yet there are no great dignitaries—no leviathans of sinecurism among its ministers. It cannot boast of pluralists with half-a-dozen of livings and 4000 or 5000 acres of glebe; nor of bishops astonishing the insects who flutter in the pump-rooms of Bath and Cheltenham, by the splendour and costliness of their equipages, and in spite of this extravagance, bequeathing a fortune of £300,000 or £400,000 to their heirs! The entire expense of the 900 established clergymen of Scotland, who administer religious instruction to a million and a-half of people, or to three times the number of the members of the Irish Established Church, does not exceed £250,000 or £300,000 a-year. This striking example proves beyond all question, the practicability of abolishing tithes in Ireland, without unduly diminishing the incomes of the clergy. The real value of the church estates of Ireland, amounts, as we have already stated, to about a million a-year, or to three times the sum that is required to support the Church of Scotland. And as all the necessities and the luxuries of life is cheaper in Ireland than in this country, it is plain the church lands alone, independently of tithes, would afford a revenue sufficient to maintain the pastors of half a million of people in that state of luxurious and pampered indolence which they seem to suppose essential to the proper discharge of their duties.

But while the tithe system is universally admitted to be a source of the most grievous and intolerable oppression, we are told that it is idle to think of redress,—that the evil is irremediable! Tithes are said to be the property of the church; and any scheme for their abolition, or even commutation, is represented as proceeding on a principle of rapine and spoliation! We are really astonished at the confidence with which this ridiculous doctrine has been maintained by Mr. PLUNKETT and others. They might just as well say that the taxes levied for the maintenance of the army belong to the soldiers, and that any attempt to reduce them would be a violation of the right of property! The tithes do not belong to the clergy; they belong to the public who give them to the clergy as the wages of their services. Neither tithes, nor bishops, nor presbyteries, make a part of the Christian religion. An established church is a mere human institution, and can boast of no higher or more respectable origin than a standing army, or a self-electing corporation. There is no difference between the clergy and any other class of public functionaries. They are servants of the public, paid for instructing the people in their moral and religious duties; and it is plainly the height of error and absurdity to suppose, that the State has no power to regulate their salaries, or to dismiss them altogether. We admit it would be hard, perhaps even unjust, to deprive of the existing incumbents of their incomes; but there is no reason, and there can be none, why the public should continue to pay their successors five or six times the sum that would suffice to procure the services of an equally learned and pious body of men. It is an insult to common sense to suppose, that any man of ordinary understanding will ever be induced to believe, that those who support the flagrant and almost inconceivable abuses of the Irish tithe system do so, lest in subverting it they should be invading the right of property! Every body must see that tithes are, in point of fact, nothing more than an arbitrary, oppressive, and ruinous tax on the produce of the land, exclusively laid out in paying the salaries of a particular set of public servants. And although it were neither expedient nor politic to reduce the number of these servants, nor to lower their wages, the Government would be just as little liable to the charge of injustice were they to do so, as they are when they pay off a line of battle ship, or reduce the wages of the seamen.

Of the bill introduced by Mr. Goulburn we have little to add to the remarks in our last. We have the authority of Sir John Newport, Sir Henry Parnell, and Mr. Spring Rice for pronouncing it altogether ineffectual and nugatory. It empowers incumbents to enter into a lease of twenty-one years certain, with the proprietors of the soil. The only difference between this system and that which is now in existence is, that the lease is to continue for a definite period, notwithstanding the death of

the incumbent. But to protect the interests of the succeeding clergymen, it is declared, that no lease shall be valid which has not been sanctioned by the Diocesan. It would be worse than idle to expect any material advantage from such a measure. We believe it was really intended as a tub for the amusement of the whale. But if this was its object it has utterly failed. The Irish people are thoroughly satisfied that nothing short of the commutation or abolition of tithes can possibly afford any adequate remedy for the abuses of the tithe system; and the following important resolutions, with which we close this paper, will show that they share this opinion in common with the majority of their representatives.

"We hasten to lay the following very important communication before our readers. It will appear from this document that a great majority of the Irish Members of both Houses of Parliament have now declared themselves favourable to a commutation of tithes."—*Dublin Register*, June 15.

At a meeting of Peers and Members of the House of Commons, connected with Ireland, the following resolutions were moved by the Right Hon. D. Browne, seconded by T. Spring, Rice, Esq. and carried.

"Resolved,—That, for the tranquillity and happiness of Ireland, it is expedient to substitute, for the present precarious and vexatious mode of supporting the Clergy of the Established Church, a full and liberal equivalent, fairly assessed and levied.

"That we are the more inclined to express this our opinion, because we are satisfied that a fair commutation of Tithe is not only practicable, but that it is essential to the stability, independence and dignity of the Established Church, and to the general interests of the country."—*Scotsman*, June 27, 1822.

Influence of the Crown.—We have given an abstract—a short one we are sorry to say—of Mr. Brougham's excellent speech on Monday on the influence of the Crown. The subject is of paramount importance. Let the abuse which has its root here be removed, and a happy change would soon be effected. The Learned Member referred to the celebrated resolution, passed by the House of Commons in 1780, that "the influence of the Crown had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished." This influence, then, by the confession of the House of Commons of that day, existed in such excess as to call loudly for reduction. Now, since that time Mr. Brougham shewed, that taking one department with another, the army, navy, church, colonies, civil, and revenue service, the number and value of places has augmented fourfold. But, besides what Ministers have gained in the actual amount of patronage, their power is greatly extended by new arrangements, by which many of the places formerly at the disposal of subordinate boards have been transferred to the Treasury. In fact, the system has been methodised and improved by long and constant practice; and much of the patronage which was anciently scattered among the private friends of individuals, is now drawn into the common fund which works such wonders in our Councils. Mr. Brougham adverted, too, to one source of influence which has seldom been taken into our estimates. The power which the revenue laws afford of annoying and distressing individuals, produces the same political effect nearly as the distribution of favours. It is seldom considered that these laws place whole classes of his Majesty's subjects in a state of civil disability, so far as regards the free management of their own concerns. They cannot carry on their business, or make use of their own property, but under multiplied and vexatious restrictions. Heavy duties necessarily require to be enforced by high penalties, and guarded by severe regulations. And we know that in some branches of business the situation of the trader is such, that no human prudence can secure him against an Exchequer action. When he gets into this dilemma, even success, he knows, subjects him to loss; and seeing fines and accumulated fines arrayed against him, he is glad to compromise the matter, by submitting to pay such a sum as he can prevail upon his tax-masters to accept. Should he be fined by the public board, he can appeal to the Treasury; and if he can get a favourable representation

made there, his penalty may be remitted. In every stage, however he lies at the discretion of men, who seldom shut their eyes to political considerations. But though all these bodies should rival the Areopagus itself in the purity of their decision, it is morally impossible that the trader, when he sees his case submitted to fierce party leaders, should not have a suspicion that his known political opinions would either serve or injure him. We have scarcely ever found a trader who was not strongly impressed with this idea. It is needless to say, that the state of dependence and anxiety in which these persons are kept has even a greater tendency than the distribution of favours to generate servile habits. Every free and enlightened people will hold excise laws in detestation.

The law of primogeniture in this country contributes greatly to keep upper classes in a state of vassalage to the minister of the day. If a landed gentleman has six or eight children, the oldest gets the property, and the others are thrown upon the country. This holds in the case of both sexes; and we could name a lady whose marriage portion was a lucrative public office. The sons brought up amidst the ease and blandishments of high life, are either averse to business or despise it as plebeian, or are destitute of those habits of vigilance and minute economy, which are necessary to conduct it with success. Hence, it is extremely rare to see a landed gentleman, or a wealthy man of any class, breed his son a merchant, manufacturer, or a physician, or to find an individual belonging to these classes subsisting by his own unpatronised industry. All look to places under Government from the first; and some years ago it was common enough to find a captain or a major in the nurse's arms. Some few take to the study of the law, not with the view of living by their exertions, but to qualify themselves for the office of a Commissary, a Sheriff, a Judge, a Clerk of Court, or some place where incapacity or indolence may batten on a good salary. The Church again (in England and Ireland) opens its arms to another class; while the army, navy, revenue boards, and the colonies, are ready to receive multitudes. It is thus that place-holders form a profession—a large and flourishing profession,—the great resource of all younger brothers of noble and gentle families. The elder brother, or head of the house, has, as it were, two estates:—the first, the land on which he subsists himself; the second, his burgh, or other source of influence, by which he provides for the younger branches. Servility is the coin he carries to market, and places and pensions are the commodities he procures. It is thus the system of influence works, and from these sources it derives its stability. It has become necessary to the subsistence of a numerous and powerful class; and unless their heads rebel against their stomachs, we shall not easily see an end to the abuse. It is needless to talk of the number of placemen in Parliament. Whether there be 85 as Mr. Brougham states, or 45 as Lord Londonderry states, is of little consequence, if Ministers are at liberty to provide for the troop of hungry and dependant relations which surround every great house. We pass over the history of parliamentary tergiversation so admirably given by Mr. Brougham; and without dwelling on facts too recent and striking to be forgot, we would point at once to the state of civil government of Scotland as a proof of the all-powerful force of influence.—Has any man the assurance to say, that it is by talent, weight of property, or public confidence, that our civil functionaries have won their way to power? Is there a man among them whose name would ever have been heard of had he been unconnected with office; or would the annihilation of the whole group occasion the smallest sensible chasm in society? There is evidently nothing which could raise such men to power, or sustain them in it, but the influence which mere office gives, which works like the steam engine by the quantity of fuel that feeds it, without any dependence on the skill of the workman's hand. For ourselves, we protest against the doctrine of a *necessary influence* in toto. We hold that men are much more apt to acquiesce in what is wrong in the conduct of their rulers, than to object captiously to what is right. So long, therefore, as these persons do what is reasonable, they need no factitious support.—*Scotsman*, June 27.

London, June 28, 1822.—Yesterday the Duke of York visited the King.

The Marquis of Londonderry had an audience of his Majesty yesterday.

The mortgage deed and securities stipulated in the bond of the King of Denmark, for the loan of 3,000,000l. sterling, were deposited in the Bank of England on Friday last, by his Excellency the Danish minister, and the contractors, in the presence of a notary public.

Hague, June 21.—The project of law for the duty on sugar has been passed by the second Chamber of the States General by a majority of 77 to 7; and that on the duty upon wine by 55 to 29.

Frankfort, June 19.—Several German Governments are preparing to follow the example of the Grand Duchy of Baden. Already the Grand Duke of Hesse has prohibited, under very rigorous penalties, the importation of French wines into his dominions. Letters from Vienna announce, that the Austrian Government has adopted new and very rigorous measures, which change the whole system of importations. The orders given to the officers of the customs are contained, it is said, in sealed letters which are not to be opened till a certain fixed day, on all the frontiers of Austria; and the execution of the new laws will take place from that day.

Letters from New York of the 29th ult. mention, that a provisional arrangement has been concluded between the Government of France and that of the United States, and that the fact will be officially promulgated by the President in the course of a short time. By this arrangement, which refers entirely to the commercial affairs of each power, it is agreed that the vessels of each shall be admitted to entry on the same terms as formerly.

The Bishop of Peterborough.—We understand that, after a division which took place in the House of Commons on Wednesday night last, and before the re-admission of strangers into the gallery, Mr. Fowell Buxton stated, that he had been desired some time since to present two petitions from very respectable clergymen of the diocese of Peterborough, complaining of the conduct of their Bishop, with respect to the eighty-seven questions which that Right Reverend Prelate had prepared. Mr. Buxton added, that wishing, if possible, to avoid introducing the discussion of such a subject into the House of Commons, he had not yet complied with the request of these two gentlemen. He had felt desirous, also, that their petitions should be considered in the first place in the House of Lords, where the Right Reverend Prelate might have the opportunity of vindicating himself from the allegations they contained. That discussion having since come on, he (Mr. Buxton) did hope that what had been said by their lordships might have the effect of inducing the Bishop to reconsider the subject in question, and to return to that which had now for so long a period been the practice of the Established Church. If, however, the conduct of the Right Reverend Prelate should disappoint these hopes, Mr. Buxton said, he should consider it his duty to call the attention of the house to this matter at an early period of the next session.

On Tuesday, as the "Princess of Cumberland" was about to proceed to Doctors' commons to be present at the decision of Sir John Nicholl on his late Majesty's will, she was removed by a writ of *habeas corpus* of the King's Bench, in the rules of which she is now placed.—*Evening Paper.*

A rescript has been issued by the Pope, strongly enforcing the reading of the Holy Scriptures.

It is highly creditable to the character of the people of Scotland, that notwithstanding the high patronage bestowed on three notorious, malicious, and slanderous journals, and the endeavours made to force their circulation, that every attempt failed, and they have been discontinued for want of encouragement. This observation, we are concerned to find, does not apply to a number of persons in this country, who are supporters and encouragers of private slander and the most malignant calumnies.

The late Riot in Westminster.—On Wednesday the man named Welsh, otherwise *Ralph Hart*, one of the rioters, who was shot in

the terrible disturbance among the Irish in Great Peter-street, on the 27th of May last, died about seven o'clock, in the Westminster Infirmary, of his wounds. From the period of the deceased being brought into the hospital no hopes were ever entertained of his recovery. It appears the ball or slug had passed the top of the hip bone, on the right side, and lodged itself in the abdomen. Every endeavour had been made by the medical gentlemen to extract the ball, but without the desired effect; and their exertions also to procure a passage from the body were unceasing but fruitless. The unfortunate individual lingered under the most excruciating agonies. During his confinement he was repeatedly visited by a Roman Catholic Clergyman, who paid him every attention, and was with the deceased only a few minutes before he expired. A Coroner's Inquest sat on the body yesterday evening, and returned a verdict of *Justifiable homicide*.

Alarming Fire.—From the *Kent Herald*.—On Tuesday, about six o'clock in the evening, the extensive stack-yard belonging to Mr. William Minter, of Ickham, was discovered to be on fire at the back, towards the fields, which being to the windward, in a few moments communicated from stack to stack, and barn to barn, so that the whole square was a continued mass of flame: the devouring element quickly communicated to an adjoining cottage, inhabited by a poor mechanic, which it entirely demolished, in a few minutes the workshop, dwelling house, and outbuildings, of widow Sharp, a carpenter and wheelwright, became a prey to the devouring element: and now the scene became truly awful, and the probable consequences very alarming, for but a few yards distant, across the road, in the direction of the wind, were an extensive range of farming buildings, with large wheat and bean stacks, which continued for hours in extreme jeopardy. A little before seven o'clock, an express arrived at Canterbury for aid. In about twenty minutes, two Engines reached the scene of devastation. The attention of the conductors were directed to allay the burning masses, which, with infinite labour, they accomplished between the hours of two and three o'clock in the following morning. A very fine cow, a favorite pony, two greyhounds, some poultry, rabbits, &c. were burnt in the devouring element. The cries of the poor pony, while he was enveloped in flames, were of the most heart-rending description. The stacks consisted chiefly of seeds, straw, &c. The loss falls very heavily on the widow Sharp, whose house is burnt to the ground, and all the yard a mass of injured timber. The cause of the fire is involved in mystery, but suspicion attaches to an individual (whose name, from motives of delicacy, we forbear to mention) who was seen near the spot where the fire commenced, and who is said to be deeply tainted with insanity.—*Times*, June 28.

Corelli.—This celebrated Italian musician was playing some composition of his own, to a select company, in the private apartment of the Cardinal, his patron at Rome, when he observed that his Eminence was engaging in a detached conversation. Upon this he suddenly stopped short, and gently laid down his instrument. The Cardinal surprised at the unexpected cessation, asked him if a string was broken? To which Corelli, in an honest consciousness of what was due to his art, replied, "No, Sir; I was only afraid I interrupted business." His Eminence, who was one of those who knew that a genius could never show itself to advantage where it had not its proper regards, took this reproof in good part, and broke off his conversation to here the whole concerto played over again.

Jews.—Talk what you will of the Jews, that they are cursed, they thrive wherever they come: they are able to oblige the Prince of their country by lending him money; none of them beg; they keep together; and for their being hated, my life for yours, Christians hate one another as much.—*Selden*.

Learning.—No man is the wiser for his learning: it may administer matter to work in or objects to work upon; but wit and wisdom are born with a man.—*Selden*.

Parsnip Wine.—Wine made from parsnips approaches nearer to the Malmsey of Madeira and the Canaries than any other wine. It is made with little expense or trouble, and only requires to be kept a few years to make it as agreeable to the palate as it is wholesome to the body.—*Phillip's History of Vegetables*.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 1832.

PENSION ACT.

Mr. CREEVEY said, he rose to submit to the house the consideration of the ministerial pension bill of 1817. He had formerly moved certain accounts as grounds of ulterior proceedings which he would now propose for repealing the bill. No task could be more difficult than to call upon that house to take away 42,000*l.* a year from the ministers of the crown. He agreed with the noble lord that he would be unsuccessful, yet he relied upon the great allies of the friends of reformation—public opinion, the publicity of debates, and the form of Parliament. Though he should be in a minority of twenty, he should still feel confident that this bill should soon be withdrawn from the statute book. His object now was to submit a certain set of resolutions, in which he hoped the hon. gent. near him (we believe Mr. Banks) who had done so much in passing the bill, would agree with him. It would be for the public to decide upon them. He might save time by stating his resolutions as his text, and making his observations afterwards. The first contained only the fact, that in the 57th year of the late King, 42,000*l.* had been charged on the consolidated fund. Two years' service had been required for 2,000*l.* Now, the Chief Justice, who generally was not a young man when he attended to that office, must be in office 15 years before he could be entitled to a pension. There was also a fancy pension of 3,000*l.*, for which no time at all was necessary. The second resolution was the pretence, that 42,000*l.* yearly were given as a compensation for the abolition and regulation of different offices. It stated that this pension-fund was professedly instituted on account of, and by way of compensating for, the abolition of some offices, and the regulation of others, the loss of which might hereafter deprive his Majesty of the power of rewarding such persons as might be, or might have been, efficient public officers. The resolutions proceeded to state, "that this was an application, or rather a bill which was pressed on the house by ministers alone, and afterwards sanctioned by Parliament without any message from or address to the Crown, in whose favour all this patronage was created; that the said act appeared to have originated solely from the proceedings of a committee of that house—a committee composed chiefly of persons in official situations, and who, therefore, became entitled to pensions under such a bill." Now it was the usual, the acknowledged principle of our constitutional law, that parties interested, should not be judges in their own case. How far this principle had been observed in the bill of which he spoke, he would leave the house to decide. His resolutions would go on to show "that this select committee was proposed, in the year 1817, at a period of great financial distress; that its object was to inquire into the expenditure of the country, and more especially what relief it might appear to them proper to afford to the country by a reduction of that expenditure; that, nevertheless, this committee did, on the first opportunity, recommend the creation of a fund which had imposed upon the country the burden of these pensions, leaving to his Majesty the authority only of exercising his *veto* in the last resort over pensions to his servants, devised and created by themselves." Now the statement contained in this resolution from the various returns before the house would be shown to be quite correct and unanswerable. (*hear, hear.*) He was quite astonished to hear those cheers proceeding from hon. gentlemen. (*hear.*) He proceeded only on authorities. Here were the acts of the 57th of the late King—the committee appointed by the house—and the bill that was the result of their labours. Here, too, were the pensions it gave, without the formality of any previous address to the Crown. Those pensions were limited, it was true. All that was left for the Crown by possibility to do was this—the power to refuse those pensions so granted under the suggestion of its own servants. The house would recollect what was said by the noble lord opposite, when, some short time since, it was proposed to go into the subject of the pensions paid to our ambassadors. (*hear, hear.*) The noble lord, on that occasion, demeaned himself in such a manner, as proved that he was amazingly high-minded to be sure. A committee was proposed. The noble lord was indignant at the proposition. He said that he would not "dis-vigour" the ministry (*a laugh*) by putting his foot in such a committee. The noble lord, in truth, would not dis-vigour—(*laughter.*)—Really he was quite sure the noble lord had used this word on a former night. (*a laugh.*) It was a very extraordinary one to be sure, and he (Mr. Creevey) should never have thought of such a one; much less should he have used it. (*hear.*) In the language of the noble lord (for undoubtedly it was not his, Mr. Creevey's), he could not not conceive any act more dis-vigouring to the country than a committee's thus imposing on the people a great burden of pensions, payable to ministers. (*hear.*) By "dis-vigoured" he understood "degraded;" and he thought the state was precisely in that situation, in consequence of such a proceeding. The effect of it, according to the practice of modern times, was to remove from ministers their responsibility and to attach it to the Crown. This pension-fund of 42,000*l.* a year was charged in consequence of the proposal of a committee composed chiefly of the ministers of the country,

who are themselves to be the objects of such an arrangement. Great reason therefore had he to say that our finances were dis-vigoured by such a recommendation. His second resolution would be in terms, this—

"That it appears by the preamble of the last recited act, that such sum of 42,000*l.* per annum, is provided for the different persons therein named, on account of, and as a compensation for, the abolition and regulation of different public offices, by other acts then and there passed and which will deprive the crown (as therein stated) of part of the means for which his Majesty had been heretofore enabled to recompense, the meritorious services of persons holding, or who may have held, high and efficient public offices."

And the 3d resolution which he would submit would be as follows:

"That although the said act of the 57th of his late Majesty, c. 65, professes in its preamble to supply the Crown with new means of recompensing the service of persons holding, or who have held, high and efficient public offices, no application from the Crown for such new sources of patronage, by message or otherwise, to this house, is to be found upon its journals; that the said act appears to have originated solely from a select committee of this house, and which was partly composed of persons who, from their official situations, would themselves become entitled to the pensions created by the bill; that this select committee was appointed in the year 1817, during the pressure of great public financial distress; that the sole object of its appointments (as appears by the journals) was to examine into the public revenue and expenditure of the country, and more especially to ascertain what relief could be afforded to the people by the reduction of such expenditure; that the committee, nevertheless, so appointed and so composed, did, in their first report, recommend the creation of the new and burdensome pension-fund upon the people—fixing at their own discretion upon such persons who were alone to possess such pensions, and in what proportions; and leaving to his Majesty the authority of his *veto* only, in the last resort, over pensions thus created by his servants in favour of themselves."

By the journals of the house it appeared, that in 1706 it was said to be a practice unknown to the constitution, that the pensions of public officers should be paid out of the emoluments or salaries of offices abolished by reason of their inutility or exorbitant salaries. And this principle was embodied in his fourth resolution:—

"That, antecedent to the act of the 57th of his late Majesty, c. 65, it was unknown to the laws and constitution of this kingdom, that the abolition and regulation of useless or overpaid offices were to be purchased and paid for by pensions from the public to persons holding high and efficient public offices; that the power of the Crown to dispose of its revenues in favour of the subject has been greatly abridged within the last two centuries, without any claim for compensation being made from the persons who then held high and efficient public offices; that various useless and overpaid offices have been abolished and regulated during the same period, particularly by the act of the 23d of his late Majesty, c. 82, whereby different offices of considerable emolument in his Majesty's Exchequer were abolished, and others, having profits to an enormous amount, were regulated and reduced to a definite and comparatively moderate value, but that no compensation by pensions for such abolition and regulation were claimed by the persons who then held high and efficient situations." (*hear, hear.*)

The object of the resolution was to show the country that this was the first time in which any set of public men had ever demanded to be paid by the public, out of the profits or savings arising from the reduction of useless offices. (*hear, hear.*) The precedent for this resolution might be thus stated:—In the year 1782, the reports upon which the regulations for the reduction of useless offices were framed and acted upon, were drawn up by persons who were not members of that house. (*hear, hear.*) The commissioners of accounts, appointed in 1780, were not only not members of that house, but they were bound by an oath, administered before the Chancellor of the Exchequer to execute their office with fidelity. These commissioners by the act of 1720 were prohibited even from holding any office under Government during the sitting of the commissioners. The contrary practice had long since been adopted, and really gentlemen seemed to think it was all matter of course and of constitutional law, that committees of that house should provide pensions for ministers. His (Mr. Creevey's) object in bringing these resolutions before the house was to record what a different practice they had once observed. (*cries of "order."*) He was truly sorry to be tiring the house at that time of night; but it was quite necessary to record such a practice. (Here the hon. gent. alluded to a message which came down to that house from the Throne, in 1782, recommending the abolition of useless offices, &c., and repeated the answer of the Commons to that message; whereby they pledged themselves to an inquiry into the subject at an early period of the ensuing session.) Now this took place when our debt was 200,000,000*l.* His late Majesty here talked about the

sacrifices which had been generously made by the people during the American war. But had no sacrifices been made during the late war? (*hear.*) Surely, after such sacrifices as had recently been made, and with the national debt increased to 800,000,000l., the people were more than ever entitled to every possible relief from the burden of our expenditure. (*hear, hear.*) In that Royal message the "people" were mentioned with consideration. But in 1817, the member for Corfe-castle took the executive out of the Crown altogether; and by the bill which his exertions procured to be passed, ministers were carefully provided for; but not one word was said about the people. Supposing, even, that it had been the practice for committees of that house to propose rewards of this kind to public men; and to marshal them in classes as they would do with clerks in public offices—supposing that public men were ordinarily paid out of the savings arising from the abolition of public offices—still there never had been a bargain so atrocious and abominable as that which was entered into in 1817, between the committee and ministers for the payment of the latter, at the expense of the public. The 5th resolution he had to submit was this.

"That, in addition to, and independent of, the preceding objections, as affecting the origin and principle of the pension bill, the contract which is therein set up between the pensioners under the bill and the public, is without any adequate consideration or advantage on the part of the nation; that the offices to be prospectively abolished or regulated by the acts of the 57th Geo. III., c. 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 67, and 84, form a limited part only of offices of the same description, and which were all decided upon as fit to be abolished or regulated by the votes of this house in the years 1812 and 1813; that of the offices to be prospectively abolished, those of the two Chief Justices in Eyre, of the value of 2,000l. per ann. each, are the only ones which have been usually granted by the crown to persons who have held high and efficient civil offices; and that of the offices to be prospectively regulated, the principal regulation is, that the duties of such offices shall be performed by the holders thereof in person, instead of by deputy, the appointment to such offices, as well as of all salaries, being left at the sole discretion of the commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, and yet in return for, and by way of purchase of, these prospective, partial, and indefinite savings, the people are to pay from henceforth 42,000l. per annum in perpetuity to the different servants of the Crown, who are named in the pension bill."

The fact was, that except the Chief Justiceship of Eyre, the great offices, such as the tellerships and the auditorships of the Exchequer, had not been regulated, but only reserved. Their fate was not yet determined. The hon. member (Mr. Banks) on a former occasion had said, that he (Mr. Creevey) had voted on these bills in 1812 and 1813 with him (Mr. Banks). He had done so (*hear.*), and he was the more ashamed to acknowledge this, on finding the monstrous abuse of its principle which had since taken place. (*cheers.*) The principle which he (Mr. Creevey) voted for was, that all useless offices were to be abolished; all offices greatly overpaid to be regulated; all objectionable offices in the colonies and the courts of law to be done away with. This principle had been so very differently recognized by the honourable gentleman since he did bring in his bill, that he thought he had only to remind the honourable gentleman of that difference to be assured of his support on the present occasion. (*hear, and laughter.*) At the time that the hon. gent. proposed the bill in question, he (Mr. Creevey) took him absolutely for a reformer; but surely never did reformer become more "disfigured" than the honourable gentleman ever since he became a member of the committee of 1817. (*much laughter.*) Never were two bills more different than those which the hon. gent. had at those two different intervals introduced into the house. Indeed, it was astonishing to think of a grave and staid gentleman, like the honourable member for Corfe-castle, being guilty of such extreme inconsistency. He began by a bill to abolish all useless offices, and to allow pensions after five years of service. But after he (Mr. Banks) got into company with the noble lord, he introduced a bill entirely different, and allowed pensions after two years' service only. He (Mr. Creevey) should like the house to guess at the precise sum which had been saved under the operation of the two bills during a period of five years (*hear.*) The next resolution would suffice to show:—

"That from the returns which have been made to this house of offices already abolished or regulated under the acts last mentioned, and by pensions received under the pension bill, the following appears to be the result of the contract between the pensioners under the pension bill, and the public at large, up to the present period.

"In England, offices abolished—those of clerk to the warden of the Mint, saving 92l. 10s. per annum; stamper of weights, saving 250l. per annum;—total saving in England in five years, 342l. 10s.

"In Scotland, offices abolished:—Vice-Admiral, saving 1,000l. per annum; Inspector of Military Roads, saving 200l. per annum. Offices vacant and subject to regulation—Law Registrar in Scotland, late value 1,200l., but no saving returned; King's Remembrancer's office in Scotland, saving returned 500l.; and the office of Teller of the Exchequer in Ireland, late value 1,300l. per annum, but no saving returned.

"Pensions which have received his Majesty's sign manual, under the pension bill:—Lord Viscount Sidmouth, 3,000l. per annum; and to

the Right Hon. Henry Goulburn, 1,000l. per annum; the latter pension being suspended by the pension bill as long as Mr. Goulburn holds the office of Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland."

Now, supposing that all the useless offices named were actually abolished, though the Tellership of the Exchequer and other offices were still reserved, the total saving would be 4,602l. 10s. in five years (*hear.*) All this, and particularly the matter of the last resolution, ought to be recorded, in order to let the public know their great obligations to public men. He asked the house to come to an opinion, which he was quite sure the people of England would at once come to, if he were to read them these resolutions. The 7th resolution was the next—

"That this house is of opinion that had the offices of clerk to the warden of the Mint, and stamper of weights in England, and the offices of Vice-Admiral and inspector of military roads in Scotland, remained at the disposal of the crown, instead of being abolished, they would not have been conferred upon Henry Lord Viscount Sidmouth as a recompense for his services in the different high and efficient situations which he has held; and that even if they had been all so conferred upon Lord Sidmouth, their united profits are very inferior in amount to the pension he now receives as a compensation for the loss of them; that it appears moreover by a document lately laid before the house that in the year 1802, Henry Lord Viscount Sidmouth being then first commissioner of his Majesty's treasury, did grant to his son, Henry Addington, the office of clerk of the pells in England of the annual value of 3,000l.; and that Lord Sidmouth or his family have received the profits of such office for 20 years, although Lord Sidmouth during a great portion of such time has held different offices of great emolument under the Crown, that the office of clerk of the pells was at the time it was last granted, and is now, an office executed entirely by deputy; but by one of the acts of regulation before referred to, the duties of such offices at some future period are to be performed by the principal in person, so that Lord Sidmouth or his family, receive at present 3,000l. per annum, as the profits of the office, without being subject to any regulation whatever, and Lord Sidmouth receives a further sum of 3,000l. per annum, as a compensation for some injury which it is presumed some other person may sustain by some future regulation of this office, when Lord Sidmouth's interest or that of his family therein shall cease." (*much laughter.*)

Gentlemen laughed; but surely never was a situation so romantic, and no doubt so distressing, as that of Lord Viscount Sidmouth. (*hear.*) He had 3,000l. a year for some injury—nobody knew what—which at some future time—nobody knew when—he or some other person, might receive by a possible future regulation of an office which at present was performed by deputy. (*hear.*) He (Mr. Creevey) would not go out of his way to utter a single disrespectful word about Lord Sidmouth; but he would just mention two names, than whom that nobleman's warmest admirers would not deny, that Lord Sidmouth was not likely to occupy a wider or more commanding position in the history of their country. Here was Lord Sidmouth receiving for his very eminent services, two or more salaries. Now the great, the good Lord Godolphin, had but one pension, which he condescended to accept from the Crown. (*hear.*) The celebrated Chatham, also, had but one pension, and that, too, he condescended, certainly, to accept from the Crown, but in both cases the salaries were single. (*a laugh.*) He Mr. Creevey was about to repeat that Lord Sidmouth received two salaries at least, and when gentlemen laughed, they were reflecting the severest censure they could well cast upon that noble lord. The result of the different considerations which he had now the honour of submitting to the house was embodied in the following resolution:—

"That this house is of opinion, that for the House of Commons to provide pensions for the principal civil servants of the Crown by committees of its own, and without any application from the throne for such purposes, is an interference with the just prerogative of the Crown, an abuse of that power over the public money with which this house is intrusted by the constitution, and an intolerable grievance to the people; and that this grievance is still further aggravated by that new and degrading principle of the pension bill, which compels the people to purchase from the servants of the Crown, every abolition or regulation of an useless or overpaid office.

"That after all the sacrifices which have been made by the great and industrious population of these kingdoms, and under all that unparalleled distress with which a great portion of such population is at present afflicted, they are entitled to demand, as a matter of right and justice, and not of purchase, the abolition and regulation of every useless and overpaid office in the state whatsoever; and that in conformity to such just and reasonable claims, it is the opinion of this house, that the ministerial pension bill, of the 57th year of his late Majesty, c. 65, ought to be repealed forthwith."

Upon these resolutions he knew very well that he should be left in a very limited minority; but he should be satisfied with the opportunity of recording them upon the journals of the house. And sure he was, that when the public opinion, which had been admitted in that house to be so much enlightened, was expressed on that subject—when the practice of the house should have permitted him to put the resolu-

ons he had submitted on their journals, sooner or later the act in question must be repealed. He should now conclude by moving the first resolution:—

"That it appears to this house by an act passed in the 57th year of his late Majesty, c. 65, that a sum of 42,000*l.* per ann. is charged in perpetuity upon the consolidated fund, to be divided in pensions among certain persons who shall have held public offices under the Crown for certain periods of time, viz. six pensions of 3,000*l.* per annum each to such persons as shall have held the office of First Commissioner to his Majesty's Treasury, or one of the Principal Secretaries of State, or Chancellor of the Exchequer, or First Lord of the Admiralty, for a period of not less than two years in the whole, either uninterruptedly or at different times. One other pension, 3,000*l.* per annum, to any person who shall have held any of the last mentioned offices, without being subject to any limitation or restriction whatsoever as to duration of service.

"Three pensions of 2,000*l.* per annum each to such persons as shall have held the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland, or Secretary at War, for any period not less than five years in the whole, either uninterruptedly or at different times.

"Six pensions of 1,500*l.* per annum each to such persons as shall have held the office of one of the joint secretaries of the Treasury, or first secretary of the Admiralty, for any period not less than five years.

"And six pensions of 1,000*l.* per annum each to such persons as shall have held the office of Under Secretaries of State, Clerk of the Ordnance, or Second Secretary of the Admiralty for any period not less than ten years."

Mr. BANKES professed himself to have been a party to the principle upon which the acts of 1813 and 1817 were founded. On the first of these occasions, the hon. gentleman who had just spoken declared there was something so unjustifiable and abominable in the measure adopted, that he could not recur to it without shame. Now, what was that principle? The abolition of useless offices; the reduction in salary of overpaid ones; salary commensurate with duty; and at the same time carefully made adequate as compensation for the duties discharged. The hon. gent. (Mr. Creevey,) had said that in 1782 Mr. Burke did not act upon this principle. But what Mr. Burke said on the subject of laying down all useless or overpaid offices, without exception, was this:—That it would be bad service to the state to take away from the Crown the means of tempting talents into its service. As for the hon. gentleman's complaining that these pensions and compensations had been settled without any message from the Crown, surely the honourable gentleman must know the forms of Parliament sufficiently well to be aware that the Crown must be a party to every bill of this sort. The hon. member had contrasted the bills which he (Mr. Bankes) had brought in with that which at present formed the subject of debate. The house would excuse an author for feeling a partiality for his own work, and therefore he did not hesitate to say that he believed the two bills which he had formerly introduced would, if they had passed through the house, have been found more effective than the bill which the hon. member had attacked. The hon. member had assumed that the present bill was also his (Mr. Bankes's) work. This he denied. He neither desired to receive blame or commendation of measures which did not belong to him. He did not mean to defend the existing bill altogether; he thought it defective in several points, and particularly with respect to the periods of service, which were too limited. (*hear, hear.*) The bill, however, contained much that was good; and if it were repealed, it would be necessary to return to the state of things which existed before the measure was passed; and therefore the object of the motion must be considered to be not so much the repeal of the bill, as the restoration of sinecures. The bill had abolished sinecures, and if it were repealed, sinecures must be restored. Was the house prepared for this? Would any man deny that the bill had effected an improvement upon the former system; or say that it was not better to have pensions, however large, than to revive sinecures? If the house were to agree to the motion of the hon. member, it would establish a most extraordinary precedent, by placing on the journals the comments of the honourable member upon an act of parliament. The statements which the honourable member wished to be thus placed upon record were not correct. It was false that a charge existed upon the consolidated fund to the amount of 42,000*l.* The honourable gentleman next adverted to the pensions which had been granted to Lord Sidmouth, which he considered no more than a fit remuneration for the arduous and meritorious services of the noble lord. In his opinion it was the prerogative of the Crown to bestow pensions as rewards for eminent public services. Whenever that prerogative should be taken from the Crown, and vested in that house, it would be the first departure from the principles of the constitution, and the change would be found forty times more expensive and onerous than the original state of things. He concluded with moving as an amendment—That the other orders of the day be read.

Mr. H. G. BENNET considered the bill a fraudulent measure. Under this bill, very few offices had been abolished, and not many regulated. He objected to the whole of the present system. He had satisfied himself by inquiry, that since the revolution all the great offices of state

had been given as bribes to families for the support of ministers when they had lost the confidence of the country. Those offices were not bestowed as rewards for public services, but as pay for political prostitution. He chiefly objected to the present bill, because it held out inducements to political adventurers to enter that house, who, by prostituting the talents with which Providence had gifted them, arrived at situations of rank, and after two years' service retired upon a pension for life. He must deny that the country would be a loser by the repeal of the act. He did not believe that the House of Commons, even constituted as it was, would have voted a pension of 3,000*l.* to Lord Sidmouth. It was painful to allude to particular individuals, but he felt it his duty to declare, that from the hapless day when Lord Sidmouth quitted the chair of that house to become a prime minister of this country, for which situation, in point of ability and talent, he was no more qualified than any of the door-keepers of the house, down to the present time he had done nothing to deserve such a reward as that which had been bestowed upon him. (*cheers.*) It would be very consistent in those who were pleased with the approbation which had been bestowed upon the Manchester massacre—who approved of the circular letter respecting libels, and of the spy system—it would be very consistent in those persons to support a proposal for giving the pension to the noble lord; but he and others who thought with him that all those acts tended to bring the government into contempt, and to put in issue the peace and tranquillity of the country, would never have consented thus to vote away 3,000*l.* of the public money. The hon. gent. next expressed his surprise at the ground on which the hon. member for Corfe Castle had opposed the motion—namely, that if agreed to, it would create an additional expense to the country. He judged, from the general conduct of the honourable member, that he was a friend to reform in little things, but an enemy to economy and reform in matters of importance to the country; and he was of opinion that nobody had done more than the hon. member to prevent any real reform from taking place. (*hear.*)

Mr. BANKES, in explanation, said that the attack made on him by the honourable member (Mr. H. G. Bennet) with respect to reform was most unfounded. The honourable member had said that he (Mr. Bankes) was a reformer in little things, but an enemy to every kind of reform or economy in matters of importance. He would appeal to the whole course of his parliamentary conduct against such an insinuation, which, in justice to himself, he must term false.

Mr. H. G. BENNET said, that with every possible contumely, he returned the term "false" in every sense in which it was used by the hon. member (Mr. Bankes).

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY said he could not, without the utmost indignation, listen to the charges which had been so profusely, and he would take leave to say, so unfoundedly and unwarrantably, made on the characters of individuals by the honourable member for Shrewsbury, and by the honourable mover of the resolutions. The honourable members could not be ignorant of the inconsistency of their arguments on the question of rewards to public servants. They ought to be aware, that the reform of Mr. Burke allowed of rewards to public servants who had filled high and important situations. The speeches, however, of the hon. members, however they might affect to approve the principle of that measure, presented the most disgusting system of inconsistency which he had ever met with in the whole course of his Parliamentary career (*hear, hear.*) for though they had been sticklers for the bill on a former occasion, which admitted the justice of such rewards, they now came forward to oppose them, with the evident view of attacking the character of a noble person in whose case the principle had been applied. The character of his noble friend (Lord Sidmouth) was however, too exalted to be affected by such insinuations; for he would assert that a more able and efficient minister of the Crown had not existed than he had proved himself. By his talents and exertions he had contributed mainly to the salvation of the country in an hour of danger and peril. He (Lord Londonderry) did not wonder at the conduct of the honourable member towards his noble friend. He was aware that neither they nor the honourable members who surrounded them, could ever forgive him (Lord Sidmouth), for he had made them feel the hand of power, when the circumstances of the country required that that power should be felt and respected. (*hear, hear.*) Having those opinions with respect to the character and talents of his noble friend, it was not without feelings of disgust that he had heard the gross attack upon him, in which he had been compared to one of the door-keepers of that house—a comparison to which, in the ordinary courtesy of one gentleman to another, no gentleman of education ought to have been submitted. (*cheers from the Ministerial side.*) Such language never ought to have been used, as it was never called for, in the observations of one gentleman upon the political conduct of another. (*cheers.*) It was, however, reserved for the hon. member for Shrewsbury, and he did not envy him the proud distinction to make the exception. (*hear, hear.*) The conduct of his noble friend (Lord Sidmouth) would, on every occasion of his life, bear the strictest scrutiny. At the time he left that (the Speaker's) chair, which he had filled with so much credit to himself and benefit to the house, he left it, not from any wish of his own, but in the discharge of a duty which he

was called upon to perform in obedience to the commands of his sovereign; and though in his political career he might not have been equal, in a comparison, with the extraordinary talents of Mr. Pitt, still his eminent services were not the less entitled to the praise and gratitude of his country. (*hear, hear.*) By his energy and abilities at the peace of Amiens, he had so arranged the affairs of the country as to lay the foundation for its future glories and triumphs during the war. After the peace of Amiens, he had provided, by the addition of 12,000,000*l.* of war taxes, the means of carrying on the contest in which we were soon after engaged in that manner which contributed so effectually to the final triumphant results; and all this he did in addition to a provision made for 100,000,000*l.* of debt. No man, placed as his noble friend had been, could shrink from the discharge of the duty which had been imposed on him; but having discharged it with the zeal, talent, and ability which he had displayed, it was disgusting to hear the comparison which had been made by the hon. member for Shrewsbury. Such a comparison was revolting to every fine and honourable feeling. But the attacks of the honourable members did not end here. An attempt was made to wound the personal feelings of his noble friend, by a charge of his having acted from interested motives. Such a charge was most unwarranted. When his noble friend left the chair of that house, he refused to accept of any provision whatsoever, though the House of Commons was most ready to make it. He declined any such provision: and the same disinterested feelings actuated him when he retired from the cabinet. When Mr. Pitt's administration was formed, and when, in consideration of his eminent services, his late Majesty had given his commands to Mr. Yorke to draw up a message to the Commons to make provision for him (Lord Sidmouth), the noble lord most peremptorily refused to accept of any, and expressed a hope that he might be allowed to remain out of office without any provision, though, from his long services, it must be evident that he was entitled to such provision. (*hear, hear.*) It was objected by the hon. gentleman (Mr. Creevey) that his noble friend had conferred offices upon members of his own family. If he did so, he had done no more than had been done by other ministers. But what had that provision to do with the present question? Was there any thing in such appointments that ought fairly to be brought into this discussion? This however, did not prevent the hon. gentlemen opposite from alluding to family circumstances, and he did not envy them the dispositions which could call to their aid circumstances calculated to harrow up family feelings, and that, too, in a case where no other object could be attained, unless it were to see such feelings wounded. (*hear.*) It must be known to the hon. members, that of the profits of the situation which had been conferred on a part of the family of his noble friend, he could not, under the particular circumstances, touch a penny; and for that reason, as it could not support any one of their arguments, common feelings of humanity should have induced them to abstain from introducing it. Taking all the circumstances into consideration, it was not without feelings of great disgust that he had heard some of the remarks, and as a gentleman or a member of Parliament, he could not sit there without expressing his reprobation of language the most disgusting and disgraceful he had ever heard within the walls of the British Parliament. (*immense cheering from the Ministerial side followed the noble lord's speech. In the midst of it*)—

Mr. BROUGHAM rose and said—"I protest, Sir, against the tone and language in which the noble lord has presumed to address a representative of the people in this house." (*loud cheers from the Opposition side.*) "I protest against the principle of this language; and I am surprised how any minister should dare—(*loud cheers from the Opposition, re-echoed from the Ministerial side. In the midst of the contending cheers, which lasted for some minutes*)—"

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY rose to order, and said—"When any honourable member uses the word 'dare,' as applied to any remark made by any other member in the course of a preceding speech, I apprehend it is quite inconsistent with the order of parliamentary proceedings. (*cheers repeated on both sides.*) If the term is applied to any observation used by me, it is irregular; for at the time of making a remark which could call for such an expression, the hon. and learned member's duty was to have interrupted me, and called for the objectionable words in order to have them taken down, that the sense of the house might be taken on them. The hon. and learned member has neglected to do so, and I now appeal to the chair whether he is regular in the expression he has used. (*cheers, and cries of "chair, chair."*)"

The SPEAKER.—As I am appealed to by the noble lord, I must say, that it would not be consistent with the usual practice of debates if I were to interrupt honourable members in the use of expressions which may be interpreted with two meanings—one of which would not be against the rules of debate. Undoubtedly, if the use of the word "dare" were to be interpreted in the sense in which the noble lord takes it, it would be quite disorderly; but the house will allow me to say, that the term is one which is frequently used in debate without any offensive intention on the part of the member speaking, and no interruption is given. If, in the heat of debate, many expressions drop from members which may not bear the most minute investigation, I trust the house will not think it neglect in the chair not to call to order. (*hear,*

hear.) The reason is, that on such occasions the chair would make an offence which most probably was never intended. (*cheers.*) I apprehend that if the house has attended to the debate, they will recollect that the expression used by the hon. member (Mr. Baikes) in allusion to what fell from the hon. member for Shrewsbury (Mr. H. G. Bennet), was used in the warmth of debate, and without any intention of personal offence, and that the reply given to it by the hon. member for Shrewsbury was of a similar character. This was the reason why I did not call to order at the time, because I conceived that the words were not intended to give offence, and therefore the interruption would be unnecessary. (*cheers.*)

Mr. BROUGHAM.—Sir, I should bow to the decision of the chair if given against me, with the same respectful deference that I would now return thanks for its decision in my favour, if, indeed, thanks could be required for the performance of a duty. Every man who heard the expressions I used, in reply to the extraordinary language of the noble lord, must have taken it in the same sense in which you, Sir, have taken it—that it was not meant offensively to any member. If the noble lord's ingenuity had not discovered it (which I excuse), his experience at least in Parliamentary matters ought to have taught him that the term is applied, and has been applied again and again, without any personally offensive intention. I, Sir, used the term when I heard a minister of the Crown presuming (for I must not use a harsher word) to charge a representative of the people with using language disgusting and disgraceful; but I will repeat the sense of the term, though it may not be permitted to use the sound—that whether it be presuming, or venturing, or pleasing, (for to such critics of words I will give the whole vocabulary of the English language, such as it is understood by those who speak it, and by him who does not, and I will give him his own vocabulary into the bargain), and I will say that in this house no man ever before heard a minister of the Crown using such epithets as "disgusting" and "disgraceful," as applied to the observations of my hon. friend (Mr. H. G. Bennet). There may be those who thought the subject to which it referred disgraceful—I will not say that I am one; but I am one who think that the use of such language by a minister of the Crown is quite new in the House of Commons. (*cheers.*) I may be pardoned if I speak with warmth after the attack which had been made upon a fellow-member, and that member my esteemed, and valued, and dear friend, whom all who know must esteem and respect for the amiable and excellent qualities of his heart. (*hear, hear.*) Hearing such an attack, it was impossible for me to sit silent. (*cheers.*) With respect to the general question, continued the hon. and learned gent. he would only say, that without entering into the personal character of Lord Sidmouth, which the noble marquis (Londonderry) had so much dwelt upon in his speech, a more absurd or ridiculous attempt than that of raising him to the office of prime minister of the country, and particularly at the time he was so raised, had never before been heard of. The hon. and learned gentlemen then proceeded to contend, that for the exertions of Lord Sidmouth at the peace of Amiens, the praises of the noble marquis were not altogether deserved. The noble marquis should have gone on and described how long that peace lasted, and what the measures subsequently taken, of which it was boasted that Lord Sidmouth laid the foundation, had cost the country—a load of debt which they would find it difficult to forget. He then defended his honourable friend (Mr. H. G. Bennet) against the charge of the noble lord—that his (Mr. Bennet's) remarks on the subject of the situations which the noble lord (Sidmouth) had procured for a part of his family were intended to wound that noble lord's feelings. Nothing could be farther from his hon. friend's intentions, and all who knew him must know that he was incapable of such conduct; but the noble lord, who knew as well as any man where the shoe pinched, knew also that it was not the individual filling the situation of a sinecure to whom the objection was made, but to the principle of keeping up places which were wholly unnecessary. It was this allusion which was meant, and which the noble marquis in reality felt; and not any thing which could be personally offensive to the feelings of the noble lord (Sidmouth).

Mr. CREEVEY briefly replied, and after disclaiming all motives of personal hostility to Lord Sidmouth and his family, proceeded to observe, that as the honourable member for Corfe-castle had moved as an amendment, that the house should proceed to the other orders of the day, and as his (Mr. Creevey's) object was to put his resolutions upon the journals, he should merely hand up to the Speaker his first resolution. He should then take the sense of the house upon it; and if it were negatived, he should then move his other resolutions, as the other orders of the day were proposed to be read. He did not, however, intend to divide the house upon any of his resolutions, except the first.

The house then divided upon Mr. Baikes's amendment, when there appeared—

For it 143 | Against it 42

Majority in favour of the Amendment, 101.

The house adjourned at A QUARTER BEFORE THREE O'CLOCK.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—789—

Royal Irish Light Dragoons.

We have heard from various quarters accounts of a Farewell Dinner, which was given to Major Deare and the Officers of His Majesty's 8th Light Dragoons, by a number of their Brother-Officers of the Bengal Army, on the 21st instant, at the Town-Hall. These instances of cordiality and mutual attachment between the members of two Services, who ought always to regard each other as "brethren in arms, though rivals in renown," are so honorable to both parties, that we regret our inability to do more than give a very brief account of the Entertainment.

From the long period which this distinguished Corps has passed in India, and "the social qualities by which they have been ever distinguished," as much as for their valour and high Military feeling, there is not one of the older Officers of the Regiment who does not leave behind him many personal friends, and there were none of their hosts, who had not at some period of his life passed many busy days and social nights in the Society of the Royal Irish. These circumstances took off all stiffness and formality from the party, which consisted of between fifty and sixty; and the feelings of cordiality, which flowed through the hearts of all who were present, found their natural and free course in the toasts of the evening and in the sentiments by which they were prefaced. The Chair was filled by the Quarter Master General, (Lieut. Colonel Stevenson), supported by Major Watson, (Deputy Adjutant General) as Vice President, both Officers who have long known the Royal Irish in Camp and in Cantonments.

We have not been able to procure a correct List of the Healths, but we understand that besides the usual Toasts and those which the occasion naturally produced, the memory of Colonel Vandeleur who fell at Laswarie at the head of the Regiment, and of Major General Gillespie who also belonged to it, were drank in solemn silence, and that the memory of His Majesty's late 24th Dragoons was drank with loud acclamations.

After the President's departure, the gay conviviality of the evening was supported with spirit by the Vice President, and the company did not break up until a very late hour.

It is a most agreeable task to record such an Entertainment as this in our pages. The 8th Regiment of Light Dragoons, besides the distinction they have earned in *their own line*, distinguished themselves on foot at the siege of Kalunga; and to their military fame they add the gratifying reflection that they have earned the warm esteem and regard of the Army in whose ranks they have been blended for twenty years. We believe many of our Readers who have no professional interest in the *General Orders*, regularly overlook that part of the JOURNAL; and for their benefit we have printed below the high compliment which has been paid to the ROYAL IRISH on their departure from India by the highest authority:

"On the occasion of the approaching departure of His Majesty's 8th (King's Royal Irish) Light Dragoons from India, the Most Noble the Governor General in Council feels himself called on, and eagerly answers the call, to express the high sense entertained by Government of the eminently valuable Services of the Regiment, during a period of Twenty Years in this Country.

"Their career has been marked by every thing which can distinguish a Corps. A decided spirit of energy has always illustrated their conduct in the Field, where they have invariably exhibited to their fellow Soldiers an example peculiarly worthy of imitation; a cordial unanimity has likewise ever subsisted between the Officers and Men of the Regiment and their Brethren of the Honorable Company's Service, who doubtless will long cherish the remembrance of a Corps, as much distinguished for their social qualities and orderly conduct as for that high principle of Military feeling which has so decidedly marked the character of the King's Royal Irish Light Dragoons."

Masonic Procession.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Conformably to the intention expressed by His Lordship the Most Noble the Marquis of Hastings of attending Divine Service with the Masonic Brotherhood on St. John's Day, the members of the different Lodges assembled at the Town Hall as early as Nine o'clock, to walk in Procession to the Cathedral. At 9-45, when near three hundred Brothers were assembled, and all had assumed their Masonic garb and honorary distinctions: the Band of the 16th Regiment of *Lancers*, struck up a Masonic Air, (the signal of Departure), upon which the lengthened line drew forth—the Junior Lodges preceding;—headed, as on the former occasion, by two Grand Tylers, with their naked swords and the before-mentioned Band of Music, and the Provincial Grand Lodge bringing up the Rear.

Thus marshal'd, the Procession marching in double files, passed the west front of Government House, entered the eastern gate of St. John's Church yard, and proceeded towards the grand entrance of the Cathedral. On the Senior Lodge (Star in the East) reaching the Church yard gate, the Procession halted, the files separated and ranged themselves on both sides of the road, forming a lane for the Senior Lodges to pass, by which they became the leaders, and the files again closed as their turn came round. This, in the eyes of by-standers, especially, must have had a very pretty effect, and I assure you that (though by no means fond of stiff military manoeuvres) I could not but admire this little stratagem, if I may be allowed so to call it, as it made our numbers just appear double, and I believe there was not a brother present who did not equally applaud the judicious and really tasteful arrangements of the Grand Conductor of the Ceremonies, Brother C. Paton. The Band on reaching the steps of the grand entrance filed off and ceased playing, when the tones of the majestic swelling Organ fell upon the delighted ear. On entering the Cathedral the Wardens ranged themselves on both sides in the Portico, poising their wands so as to meet above, forming something similar to a Gothic arch and admitting a passage for the Procession below; the Banner bearers ranged themselves in like manner inside, and remained in that posture while the Lodges took their seats respectively on both sides. A few minutes after the whole of the Procession had taken their place, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Bengal with our beloved Grand Master walked up the Middle Aisle, followed by the Banner Bearers and Wardens of the respective Lodges. The Noble Marquis having taken his seat, the Banners were deposited next the Officers of the different Lodges; the Reverend Doctor Corrie then proceeded to read the Morning Service, which being concluded, the Communion was read by the Reverend Mr. Taylor.—The following Anthem was then sung:

Masonic Anthem, Sung at St. John's Cathedral, on the Morning of St. John's Day, 27th December.

RECITATIVE.

Let there be light—th' Almighty Spoke,
Refulgent streams from chaos broke,
To illumine the rising earth;
Well pleas'd the great Jehovah stood,
The power supreme pronounc'd it good,
And gave the planets birth.

SOLO.

Parent of light, accept our praise,
Who shedd'st on us thy brightest rays,
The light that fills the mind;
By choice selected, lo we stand,
By friendship join'd, a social band,
That love—that aid mankind.

CHORUS

In choral numbers masons join
To bless and praise thy name divine.

VERSE.

The widow's tear—the orphan's cry,
All wants—our ready hands supply,
As far as power is giv'n;
The naked clothe—the prisoner free,
These are thy works, sweet charity,
Reveal'd to us from Heaven.

CHORUS.

In choral numbers masons join,
To bless and praise thy name divine.

The Rev. Mr. Taylor then preached an excellent Sermon from the 3d chapter of St. Paul's Epistles to the Corinthians, the 10th and 11th verses:

"10 — But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.

"11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

The Sermon being concluded the Marquis of Hastings left his Chair and accompanied by the Members of the Provincial Grand Lodge, retired in the same order in which he entered, graciously and with his accustomed kindness bowing to his brethren on both sides as he proceeded down the middle aisle. The Banner Bearers and Wardens having resumed their former stations, the Junior Lodges with the Band, (which struck up as the sounds of the Organ were lost on the ear) preceding them, once more led the Procession forth; the van having reached the Church yard gate, the Procession stopt, and again performed the same ingenious evolution as when it entered, the Senior Lodges having taken the lead, the Procession returned to the Town Hall, and there formed a lengthened square. The Provincial Grand Master then addressed the whole of the Brethren assembled, returning thanks to them for their cordial attendance on this as well as the foregoing occasion, and took leave of them, expressing his cordial wishes to see them at the Town Hall this day to partake of the Masonic Banquet prepared for them on this the Anniversary of their Tutelar Saint.

The Cathedral on this interesting occasion was unusually crowded, and a greater display of female charms could not possibly be anticipated any where; among the illustrious visitors of that sex, The Marchioness of Hastings appeared most conspicuous; of the other sex, perhaps the Military Gentlemen formed the largest part of the Congregation, though a great number of Civil and Mercantile Gentlemen were present also.

I shall now conclude by expressing my happiness at having been present to view this interesting scene, which could not possibly have been conducted with more order and regularity: the Music was excellent, the weather was fine, and nothing was wanting to complete the interest of this exhibition, the like of which will perhaps not soon be exhibited again.

I am, Your's, &c.

Calcutta, Dec. 27, 1822.

A BROTHER.

Assistant Authenticators of Stamps.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Will you have the goodness to inform me, through the medium of your Paper, if INDO-BRITONS are eligible to situations and emoluments in the Stamp Office, I mean as Assistant Authenticators? An answer will oblige

Calcutta, December 23, 1822.

A CONSTANT READER.

Note.—We are unable to answer this Query; but think it probable that some of our Readers may be competent to say what constitutes the qualification alluded to.—Ed.

Auctions.

"Since every Jack became a gentleman
There's many a gentle person made a Jack."

KING RICHARD III.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

We Mofussilities owe you much for the pains you were wont to take to enlighten us; and I for one cannot but lament to see your JOURNAL, once the vehicle of much useful and entertaining knowledge to the Indian Community, turned, as it now is, into a 'Bear Garden' for Bull Baitings, Bull feasts, Calomelists, Anti-Calomelists, and all the tribe of Life-Preservers, against whom may Heaven preserve our tempers, at least; for the rest, let us patiently await the coming of the Indian Buchanan promised us by your able Correspondent "A MEDICAL MAN." So much en-pas-sant, but, really Sir, whilst you continue thus at 'Hammer and Tongs' with their *Genus irritabile Taurorumque Doctorumque*, say what chance have I of a spare corner. I pray you purge your pages of such stuff, and make room for Bull-dogs of another kind, such as show their teeth on your only place of lounging resort, I mean your Auction-rooms.

You must know, Sir, or if you don't know, I must tell you, that I have lately been a six week's sojourner in your far famed city, and I may add to my cost, a constant frequenter of the Lol Diggy and Lol Bazar Pulpits; my money I parted with freely enough, and I was bidding fair to become what's called in Pulpit eloquence a good *Hammer Customer*: more than a dozen lots were knocked down to me, nolentem volentem; nay, if I mistake not, my humble name was more than once "bought in" with a goodly Estate or two. A nod is as good as a wink to a blind Horse, they say, but who ever thought of giving the one for the other? not I, I assure you. But to come to the point. In the midst of my nods and winks, a leash of blood Hounds, never advertised for sale, suddenly assailed my heels, in the absence of either Boots or Bludgeon, and with such terrible effect too, that I am sadly afraid I shall never be able to face the waters of the far-famed Lol Diggy as long as I live. Such were my fears, Sir, that they actually kept me within doors for two whole days, but on the third, being unable to get the better of my lounging propensities, I hid me once more by "indirect crook'd ways" to the Rival Hammer at the Lol Bazar, first taking care to ascertain that it was no sale day. Here, whilst I was bargaining for a few lots at the average of the sales, an ill-bred Cur, one that was tied to a stake in the compound, snarled at me so, that, all my horrors reviving, I was fain to make precipitate use of the self-same heels, fresh and reeking as they were with the blood of the mirables. It happened very fortunately for me that very few of the 'animal risibile' witnessed my first disaster, and only one gentleman a friend of mine, the second, for to my honor be it said, and that friend can vouch for it, I bore both the assaults, and particularly the last, like a Philosopher, I should say, like a Cynic. Thus, by quietly pocketing the affront, escaped those deep and loud tokens of sympathy, with which our friends are ever ready to greet the numberless accidents flesh is heir to, on this biting world. I vowed at the same time to tell you all about it, and however ungracious the task of being the Herald of one's own defeat, I redeem my pledge, in the hope that, through your means, the Lords of the Hammer may take the hint and clap a muzzle on such of their ears, of all colors, as can make no distinction of persons, but will be showing their teeth at every one who may chance to come in their way, whether friend or foe. My consolation is, I am at least a thousand or two in pocket by my seasonable fit of Hydrophobia, and what's better, it has cured me of being

On the River, Dec 12, 1822.

A LOUNGER.

Pray excuse this China Foolscap, my River stock of Paper is very scanty, and what I purchased at the Hammer is not fit to send you.

Sheik Ibrahim's Simile.

"HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE."

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

The Editor of the JOHN BULL warmly expresses his indignation at a short extract from one of Sheik Ibrahim's letters published by you as a necessary part of your Defence. The simile used by the Sheik is sufficiently disgraceful to its author; but, in my opinion, its publication is not at all so to you. It forms a necessary part of your Defence, and it would have been wrong to have omitted it. It shews, not only that you refused the money, but it shews what is by no means unimportant, that your be-praised and be-sainted Accuser, though perhaps upon the whole a good man, was not the perfect, the immaculate character your enemies have thought proper to represent him. To shew this was of course allowable, for no man is bound to do injustice to his own character for the sake of doing more than justice to that of another.

The Editor asks, who would place your Defence in the hands of his female relatives? I can tell him I would have no hesitation in doing so. The reports of some Trials published almost daily in the English Papers are highly offensive; may I ask the Editor if in the abundance of his caution he would lay an interdict on these Papers? I mean not the smallest irreverence, but I would also ask the Editor what he thinks of certain passages in the Sacred Writings, and whether, because such passages exist he would wish to seal up the pages of the Bible? The Editor cannot answer these questions in the affirmative without paying our female relations a very indifferent compliment, and I am quite sure a very undeserved one.

Delicacy, or that which usurps its name, when too sensitive and quick sighted is no proof of purity of heart, and it is generally better for the interests of morality to allow an offensive passage to remain as much as may be under veil than by comment to confer on it a publicity and a notice which unassisted it would not attain.

I think therefore the Editor's remarks, however well intended, by no means judicious; and no thanks to his discretion if they have not brought to the notice of many a female eye the very passage he so warmly reprobates.

December 27, 1822.

LÆLIUS.

Division Orders.

His Majesty's 24th Regiment of Foot.—The volunteering of this fine old Corps took place prior to their leaving Nagpore, when 392 of the Men turned out for King's Regiments serving in India, and 71 for the Honorable Company's Service. The Regiment now, scarcely 200 strong, marched from Nagpore for Bombay, to embark for England on the 28th ultimo. Previous to their departure, the following Complimentary Order was issued by Colonel Adams, C. B. which will be read with pleasure by every friend of the Regiment:—

Division Orders issued by Colonel Adams, C. B. Commanding Nagpore Subsidiary Force; Head-quarters, Kamptee, Nov. 26, 1822.

The operation of the relief of several Corps of His Majesty's Regiments in India, being about to separate the 24th from the Nagpore Subsidiary Force, Colonel Adams, C. B. amidst the sincere regret he feels on the approaching departure of that Corps for Europe, cannot bid it farewell without thus publicly expressing the real satisfaction he has derived from witnessing the correct and orderly conduct, which this excellent Corps has observed during the period of its Service with the Force he has the honor to command.

The Commander of the Forces has at two Inspections of His Majesty's 24th Foot, had the satisfaction of submitting to His Excellency the Commander in Chief, his unqualified approbation of the perfect discipline which the Corps has attained; and shall on the occasion now recorded, have equal pleasure in bringing

to His Lordship's notice its Soldierlike and orderly behaviour in Quarters, a quality no less creditable to the Corps than essential to the public interests, and which cannot be better illustrated than in stating that he has never had a single complaint against any individual since its arrival at Nagpore.

This just praise on the uniform excellent conduct of His Majesty's 24th Foot is the more particularly gratifying to the Commanding Officer, as he is permitted to associate in his unqualified approbation that of the British Resident at Nagpore, who accordingly has intimated his request, that Major Craig will have the goodness to explain to His Majesty's 24th Foot the high sense which he entertains of the merits of this excellent Corps, together with his warmest wishes, united with those of Colonel Adams, for its prosperity and success.

Hasty Marriages.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

In my regular routine of perusing Sermons, I chanced a few weeks ago to alight on one on the same subject, which had been forcibly, but reasonably commented upon in your JOURNAL of the preceding day, by a Correspondent of your's, under the Signature of R—. As the subject itself is of too great importance ever to become stale, allow me to solicit you to give a place to the following passage from the Sermon above alluded.

"The ordinary method of those Christians are much to be deplored, who, in the choice of what is to them of the utmost importance, are so little concerned in seeking the help of God, that they generally put themselves under the guidance of some passion, and thus, for the discerning more clearly in the choice they make, most absurdly begin by choosing darkness rather than light. Hence, in a choice that is made for life; when a married state, for example, is resolved on, and so much depends on the temper and disposition of the person, that not only the temporal but eternal comfort is evidently hazarded if the choice be ill made, one would think none would ever engage in it, without having first earnestly solicited heaven for assistance and direction; and yet how contrary is the practice, when it frequently happens, that nothing more than the violence of a sudden passion, raised from some external agreeableness, determines the point, without any knowledge of those more solid qualifications that are necessary for discharging the duties of that holy state? And if more time be taken by others to deliberate on the case, charity (which is alone capable of directing for the best) is seldom consulted, but generally some sordid or vain principles have the most powerful influence, and preside in the choice. The enquiry is about money, dignity, or some prospect of preferment; if these answer expectation, the business goes smoothly on; but as for the Christian *Dæmon* of piety, moderation, virtue, patience, and peace, it is either totally dispensed with, or considered in a superficial cursory manner. Provided temporal circumstances are satisfactory, the eternal are put to the hazard. It is unaccountable into what perplexing inconveniences many involve themselves by rash engagements in the married state, on the prospect of some tempting bait, either of money or honour, sacrificing all their rest, comfort, and conscience, by tying themselves for life to such persons whose known irregularity, prodigality, and vice, cuts off to the quick all future hopes of more substantial and desirable goods. But how can it be otherwise when in an affair of such consequence, they take no other guide than some brutish or vain passion; they first blind themselves, and then proceed in a way where none can safely go, who have not God to direct them. And this unquestionably is the ground of many unhappy marriages;—disorders in families, a negligent, or barbarous education of children,—a squandering of property, and devastation of estates."

S—.

Death.

At Sydney, on the 26th of June, at the Quarters of Quarter-master STUBBS, of the 48th Regiment, and Parent of the deceased, MRS. HAMILTON, Widow of the late Assistant Surgeon HAMILTON, of the 48th. This suffering, amiable, and lovely Lady has continued inconsolable for the sudden deprivation of the society and affection of her respected and lamented Husband; who, it may be recollected, was killed about two years ago by a fall from his horse, in Van Diemen's Land. Her life, since that solemn period, has been wholly devoted to the services of piety, hence deriving all that sustentation, under the most acute afflictions of mind and body, which the sacred influences of Religion are alone calculated to bestow to the suffering saint.

Stanzas.

On Love!

Ah, unseen Seraph, we believe in thee,
A faith whose martyrs are the broken heart.

In yon lone cot that skirts the glade;

Where summer blooms prevail,
Once dwelt in simple garb arrayed,
The pride of Arno's vale.

Fair as the blushing rose of dawn

That scents the morning dew,
And graceful as the bounding fawn,
As light and guiltless too.

Oh! blest I ween that gentle pair

Whose hearts would proudly swell,
Whose looks of fond parental care
On that sweet form would dwell.

But woe to that so lovely maid,

A gilt-robed villain came,
With heartless guile her hope betrayed,
And triumphed o'er her shame.

And now where once young beauty smiled

And aged hearts would glow,
Glares the poor maniac's glance so wild,
And sounds the voice of woe!

Thus joy may fly the sweetest bower,

And winter's blast may brand,
And beauty like a peerless flower
May tempt the spoiler's hand.

December 18, 1822.

D. L. R.

Cato's Essays.

No. VI.—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1822.

Himself a wanderer from the narrow way,
His silly sheep, what wonder if they stray?—COWPER.

It is said of Cato, the great Censor of Rome, that his severity, eloquence, and exemplary-life, caused it to be observed, that he did greater service to the city by conquering immorality, than Scipio did by overcoming the foes of the nation. To obtain similar praise, similar means must be used.

The conclusion of the year should ever be considered as a solemn season; let me, therefore, devote it to serious thought.

Among the *great and crying sins* of this Metropolis, there is one which very much grieves me: I mean, the behaviour of people in places of divine worship.

Instead of attending when warned by the bells, many come into church after the service has begun, regardless of disturbing the congregation. In the name of virtue and good-breeding, I entreat all to avoid doing this. If delay has been unavoidably occasioned, the first vacant seat, near the door, may be occupied.

I am surprised, vexed, and disgusted to find seats bought and sold, and distinctions of rank made in the house of God. When a stranger enters a church here, he finds the pews locked, and is obliged to stand, not unfrequently out of countenance, until one of the persons employed to run constantly about, here and there, for the purpose, shew him where he ought to sit. It is earnestly wished, that every one may be suffered to accommodate himself as he can, at church, whatever may be the practice elsewhere.

People commonly come to prayers, not in plain and decent clothes, (as they should,) but in ball and fancy-dresses. What creaking of shoes! As they walk up the church, lo, every eye is fixed demurely on them! They kneel, put the hat or handkerchief before the face, saying,—anything but an ejaculation; I suspect; and then, what!—laughing, bowing, talking; and so forth, *ad infinitum*. Dear me! how pretty is all this. If Democritus were to rise to life, and behold these things, I fear he would

soon return to Pluto's dominions, by bursting his sides with laughter. Fie! is this sanctity?

I should be considered as being deficient in the important duties I have imposed on myself, if I omitted to warn my Fair readers to beware of their hearts, when they are in church. When the music of St. Cecilia,

‘Laps the soul in ecstasies,

And brings all heav’n before the eyes,’

—then, to the sensible mind, deformity ceases to give the displeasure it was wont, and the beauty of an amiable object is redoubled. That celebrated pair, Petrarch and Laura, first met in a church at Avignon.

Some needlessly bring noisy children into church; and a few foolishly read aloud when every body else is silent. These are great nuisances.

The gun, which is fired at eight in the night, as well as before day-break, at military stations, is the best regulator of time. In places, where evening service is performed, as soon as this is heard, strange to tell! every watch leaps from the sob into the hand, and the creaking of winding is enough, in large congregations, to draw off the attention from the best discourse. I was much pleased with a Methodist preacher, in a small chapel in the suburbs of Madras; for, when he began to find his audience thus indecently and absurdly engaged, he broke off his discourse and sat down until they had done. This was a much more forcible reproof than words could have expressed; and, I hoped, others felt it as I did.

I wish too, that the behaviour of people immediately after divine service, may be better than it commonly is.

Having thus spoken of the sheep, permit me to advert to their shepherds.

I have more than once hung down my head with shame, on seeing a clergyman ascend the pulpit, and look with greater reverence at the Governor of a sister presidency, (where I then was,) than he cast his eyes up to heaven.

Some affect the ways of the *beau monde*; and others in shewing their skill in fine-speaking, forget they are in the presence of their God. Others change, (this does no credit to their judgments) the antiquated expressions in our sacred books; for, example, *you*, is substituted for *thou*; *does* for *doth*; and *who* for *which*, (as in the *Pater noster*.)

I hear a certain worthy divine pray, for *His Majesty*, George IV. by the grace of God, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth; the *most honorable* the Privy Council, and the Great Council of the Nation; their *Graces* the prelates, and the *Most Noble* the Governor General!—And to whom? To *ONE*, who is *no respecter of persons*; who regards as equal, the sparrow on the house-top and the sovereign of a hundred realms!—Physicians would only to work a cure: I hope to see my hints taken in good part.

I know many ministers who, instead of preaching original sermons, select from the best writers: this practice should be more adopted. An author, I believe a French dramatic one, used to read his productions to an old woman, and blot out of them every expression which she did not comprehend. In consequence of something like this not being done, many excellent discourses are not interesting to the major part of audiences; and, if two-thirds of the people we see constantly attending church, dared to lay their hands on their bosoms, and ingenuously declare their sentiments, it would I am sure be found, that they attend not on account of the doctrine at the church, but either for the music there, or in pursuance of custom.

Let it not be insinuated that I am a foe to the clergy: I am far from it, though I concur in the opinion of Lord Chesterfield, that a man is not the better nor worse, for wearing a black gown.

Thus have I delivered my sentiments on this subject. I conclude, with exhorting every son and daughter of Adam to remember that there is a BEING, unseen by human eye, who is omnipresent, and penetrates the deepest recesses of the heart; by entreating laymen to engrave on their minds, the precept of Pythagoras, *Worship God with due reverence*, and Ministers, to exert themselves to become way-marks, in the road to another and a better world.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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New South Wales.

Sydney, June 28, 1822.—His Excellency Sir Thomas Brisbane visited the metropolis, for the dispatch of public business, on Wednesday; and returned to Paramatta yesterday.

The fort at Dawes' Battery saluted the Russian discovery-ship on Tuesday last, on that vessel's bidding farewell to our shores. The compliment was immediately returned by Captain Chroolstoff—a Gentleman, from his kind and unaffected manners, that will long be remembered by those who had the happiness of his short acquaintance in New South Wales. We cannot avoid observing, that the Officers appeared to copy the bright example of their respected and worthy Commander.

The Naval Officers, Merchants, and Gentlemen of Sydney, gave a Ball and Supper, at Hill's Rooms, Hyde Park, on Friday evening last, to Captain Chroolstoff, and the Officers of the Russian ship *APOLLO*, preparatory to the departure of those Gentlemen from Australia. Lieutenant Governor Erskine and the Officers (with their Ladies) of His Majesty's 48th Regiment, honoured the ball-room with their presence. Such a display of festivity, harmony, and brilliancy is seldom exhibited, as that which was happily effected on Friday evening. The Strangers were quite enraptured at the splendid entertainments they had already experienced; and, as this was formally declared, to be the *finale*, Australian Hospitality called into action all its well known powers to prove that the genuine, friendship and unaffected liberality of Albion were also the predominating principles that pervaded the breasts of Her most distant Colonists; and that we were worthy of such a Monarch, as His Majesty, George the Fourth!

We believe that we may venture, to pronounce as a fact, that is very likely His Majesty's 48th Regiment, commanded by Colonel Erskine (Lieutenant Governor,) is designed by the Government at home to remain here for some years longer, undergoing a reduction of some hundreds, however, from its present noble strength, so as to come down to the peace establishment. We hope this may be the case, being pretty conscious the voice of the inhabitants will join in the wish. Not to speak to the disparity of other British Regiments, when did New South Wales find so much order, regularity, peace, and undisturbed repose, as that with which it has been blessed, since the soldiers of the 48th have been among us? It may not be so well to enquire Gentlemen exactly on the spot, but, as "truth only is lovely," and lest some awful casualty may intervene ere "o'er the hills and far away" takes place, we seize this opportunity to say, that had it not been for the general kind and engaging, but decisive manner of the Officers of this Regiment, it is more than probable, we might not have enjoyed such repose, as that which has been experienced for the last five years. It appears now, that we are to have two Regiments always stationed here to perform garrison duty; and we therefore anxiously express the fond hope, that the last few years' bright example will never be sullied by one future act of dishonour or unkindness—either on the part of the soldier or civilian.

If all has been propitious, Governor Macquarie is doubtless at home by this. The *SUNNY* sailed on the 15th February, and four months was the time calculated on for the direct run.

There is a man at present in custody on strong suspicion of having perpetrated the late barbarous, wanton, and unmanly act on the person of the Publisher of this Paper. It is hoped, if any one be implicated, that the actually guilty may be the individual on whom vengeance will fall.*

Captain Siddins, of the brig *LYNX*, is the bearer of a letter from Captain Taylor, of the ship *CAROLINE*, belonging to Edward Lord, Esq. of Hobart Town, which furnishes the information of that vessel's arrival at New South Shetland, on the 19th December last. Captain Taylor remained there about two months, meeting with miserable success; and about the 7th or 8th of February, was for shaping his course for New Zealand.

A short time will suffice to prove whether the Spanish dollar, or its representative, be the most acceptable and congenial for the circulating medium of the Colony. We hope that whatever speculation may be entered into, no event will tend to effect the interest of the Bank, which has been so effectual in producing such amazing abundance of agricultural and mercantile good since its establishment in 1817; for, it is to this Institution alone that we owe all our present respectability and opulence, which, it is to be hoped, will remain on a basis secure. However discordant public opinion may be, and however the various interests of individuals may seem to clash, let there be but one voice as regards the Bank, and all may yet be well. Stagnation in trade and commerce seem now to be the order of the day; the harp reclines on the willow; and gloom is apparently the occupant of many a brow; but whether necessarily so, is

* There is no Censorship on the Press in New South Wales we believe; nor the power of Transmission.—Assassination appears to have been attempted, however, as at Manila to check its freedom.

not for us to pronounce. These clouds must be dispersed; and the sooner our hemisphere becomes brightened with the cheering rays of satisfaction, the readier will public confidence, which has been so seriously shattered, become re-established. It is not our province, neither is it our wish, to enter into the argumentative discussions of the day (there are more powerful pens engaged in that "delightful task") otherwise than as the limb of a tree which necessarily participates in the injury that the parent stem may have experienced from the fortuitous blast. We are at a loss to conceive where the beneficial effects of the *dollar* note will be felt, except by the farmer, who no doubt will travel home from market with more confidence and greater security.

On Friday last the half-yearly Examination of the Students at Doctor Halloran's Establishment took place, at the Doctor's house in Philip-street, in the presence of several respectable Gentlemen. The first class, consisting of Masters Simeon Lord, Robert Campbell, Lawrence H. Halloran, and John Piper, were examined in Sallust and Horace, which they translated with great facility; explained the different kinds of versification in the latter author; and applied the rules of syntax and prosody with accuracy and aptitude.—The second class, consisting of Masters Francis Lord, James Smith, Edward Terry, William Campbell, and Charles M'Intosh, passed an examination in Ovid's *Metamorphosis*, with equal credit.—The first class with the addition of Masters Henry Bayly, George Bayly, John Terry, Charles Driver, and James Chisholm, were then examined in the general principles and peculiar idioms of the English language, and displayed a degree of critical acumen in detecting the various solecisms that frequently occur even in the best English writers, which is rarely indeed acquired by students, at so early an age. An elegant silver medal was awarded to Master Francis Lord, for his proficiency in Latin. A similar one to Master Geo. Bayly, for his general improvement in English Geography, and the composition of themes; and a handsome silver pen to Master Edward Terry, for improvement in penmanship. To each of the two head scholars, Masters Simeon Lord and Robert Campbell, a valuable set of books was presented. Masters Charles Driver, Robert Fitzgerald, and Henry Halloran, also were highly commended for their application and very conspicuous improvement. The students were then dismissed for their half-yearly vacation, with a short and appropriate address from their Reverend Preceptor.—The number of Gentlemen, who received their school education from Doctor Halloran in England, and who now fill high situations in that Country, and the approbation of his system of education expressed by the Honorable the Commissioner of Enquiry, and the Honorable the JUDGE ADVOCATE of New South Wales (who condescended to attend an examination of the Doctor's pupils), form the surest criteria for estimating the advantages which the rising youth of this Colony must derive from the tuition of so able and experienced an Instructor.

Monday last, being the Anniversary of St. John, Brethren of THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIAL LODGE, assisted by a number of Visitors from the Lodges in England, Scotland, Ireland, and France, met at Hill's, Hyde Park, to commemorate that Festival, after an appropriate and impressive discourse from a Reverend Gentleman, whose ministerial talents are well appreciated in the Colony. The sum of £106 was collected, which is intended to go in aid of the Benevolent Society. The Brethren sat down, at four o'clock, to a most sumptuous dinner prepared for the occasion at Mr. Hill's, which was served up in the customary "first style" of elegance and neatness. The pleasure of the evening was much enhanced by the attention of Colonel Erskine, who, with his accustomed politeness, granted the Lodge the use of the full Band of the 48th Regiment, who played a variety of masonic and patriotic airs, during the evening. A number of loyal toasts was given from the chair, and received by the Brethren with the most enthusiastic applause. The visiting Brethren were much pleased at the harmony and sociality which was preserved through the evening, and which has at all times been so peculiar to the craft; as also at the Masonic Order in which the business of the Lodge is managed. The party broke up at a late hour, all present having participated in the conviviality of the evening.

Advertisement.—Doctor Halloran desires to announce the early Publication, in England of a Work entitled, "*An Enquiry into the present State of Society, Morals, Science, and Legislation, in the Colony of New South Wales.*" in four Letters, addressed (by particular Desire) to the Most Noble the Marquis LANSDOWNE.

"*Nulius addictus jurare in verba Magistri.*"

"On no man's faith I build my own,

"But write—what I have seen, and known!"

As only a small Impression will be printed, Persons in this Colony, who may be desirous of possessing a Copy, are requested to signify their wish to Doctor HALLORAN previously to the 1st Day of the ensuing Month of August.

In an Appendix will be subjoined "*Auto-biography,*" or "a faithful Narrative of the leading Incidents in the Author's eventful Life; authenticated by irrefutable Documents, and by Correspondence with some of the first public, political, and literary Characters of the late Reign.

Philip-street, Sydney, 31st May, 1822.

State of Peru.—The MINERVA left this Colony about five months ago. She went from hence to New Zealand; then to Valparaiso; and from thence to Lima. Captain Bell from the latter place proceeded on to Tahite; and left the Society Isles in the beginning of last month on his return to Port Jackson. A Gentleman on board has been kind enough to oblige us with a few interesting particulars relative to the state of Peru.—It may be recollected, that this time last year news reached us of Lima having fallen into the hands of the patriots, or insurgents; and that they were then flushed with victory and success. But a change has taken place in this short lapse of time, which threatens entire destruction to their blood-bought victories. Lima was invested with an army of 5000 Spanish troops: the name of the General is unknown. General St. Martin, the revolutionary commander-in-chief, it was supposed would not long be enabled to resist the strong forces opposed to his disheartened and enfeebled troops. The Peruvians had even declared its independence of the Chilian Government, at the instance of St. Martin, who became the President or Ruler. All the horrors of the French Revolution, in its most direful and agonizing period, have been again brought into action under the almost unexampled tyranny of this patriotic Despot. He has proved a very scourge to the land in which he dwells; consequently, he is abhorred and detested; and the only prop that sustains his tottering authority, is the remnant of despairing soldiery whom he has the misfortune to command. Lord Cochrane was at a place called Guayaquil, busily refitting a Spanish frigate that he commanded; he had broken off all connexion with St. Martin, a measure that may be attributed to the dreadful tyranny of the latter, whose ambition knows no bounds, and whose monstrosity death alone must terminate. The crops had failed in Chili and in Peru; and the besiegers and besieged were consequently in a deplorable state for provisions. This failure was owing to the emancipation of the slaves; who, of course, were no longer subject to any controul, and hence the fields became neglected. The country, from its poverty and wretchedness fully exemplifies the hapless consequences of that spirit which is the opposite to Peace, and contrastive to Christianity; for all was anarchy, terror, and woe! The merchants were afraid to land their cargoes, being in a state of incertitude as to the issue of the blockade of Lima; as, in the event of the Royalists becoming victorious, all property would be confiscated. Of the patriots' discomfiture, in this instance, and of Lima's re-capture, from what we learn, scarcely a doubt can be entertained. Only one English man-of-war (brig) was lying in Callao Bay, viz. the ALACRITY.

The Society Isles.—By the above opportunity we are further informed of what may be termed rather a singular circumstance, till hereafter explanation remove the conjectures now entertained; viz. the seizure of a patriot privateer-brig, of 16 guns, by Captain Samuel Henry, at the Society Isles. The QUEEN CHARLOTTE, which vessel Mr. Henry commands, was still at the Islands. The intention of the captured vessel in visiting Tahite and its neighbourhood, is reported to have been piratical; and hence, very probably, arises the seizure. The crew is scattered in the various islands.—*Sydney Gazette*, Aug. 16.

Selections,

Dr. Mac Whirter.—On the evening of Thursday last, the 10th instant, there was a Farewell Entertainment given at the Town Hall, to Dr. MacWhirter, by his professional friends at the Presidency, and to which about 80 of the Doctor's extra-professional friends had been invited. The dinner and wines were excellent, and an emblematical transparency, represented the PAUNCH REGENT, (the Ship that carries the Doctor to England) under sail. Dr. Hare presided on the occasion, and on his right hand sat Dr. Mac Whirter, and on his left Mr. Lyecester. On the removal of the cloth, the Chairman proposed Dr. MacWhirter's health in a justly laudatory and able speech, in which he took a short review of his professional career in India, and held him up as an example to the junior members of the profession. Dr. Mac Whirter returned thanks in a very feeling and neat reply. Several loyal and patriotic toasts followed, as well as many that were particularly relevant to the occasion;—and after a most harmonious and delightful evening's entertainment, Dr. MacWhirter at a late hour was accompanied to his own door by a small band of friends, who there bade him farewell, and wished him a happy voyage, and that state of rational enjoyment in his native land which his professional talents and humanity, as well as his social and private virtues, so richly merit.—*India Gazette*.

Bombay, December 7, 1822.—The next Ships for England from this port, will be the JAMES SIBBALD to sail on the first, and the UPTON CASTLE, about the tenth of January. The BARKWORTH, SARAH, PHOENIX, and KING GEORGE THE FOURTH, will also be sailing in all January.

The Honorable the Governor and suite were at Sholapore on the 30th ultimo; and purposed moving forward again on the 3d instant.

H. M. ship LIFREY bearing the broad pendant of Commodore Charles Grant, C. B. Naval Commander in chief, entered this harbour on Thursday. The Commodore landed yesterday morning at the Apollo

pier under the salute and honors due to his rank. He was received at landing by the Superintendent of Marine, Major General Cooke, the Officers of the general and garrison staffs, and other gentlemen of the Presidency.

There were a considerable fall of rain here during the night of Sunday and the morning of Monday last. A circumstance of rare occurrence on our side of India at this period of the year. We observe from the Madras Papers that the rain at that Presidency has been unusually abundant.

Madras, December 12, 1822.—After the supply of rain which has fallen, ample for all the purposes of the country, we may hail with great satisfaction, the return of fine and settled weather,—such as now prevails, and has prevailed at the Presidency for some days past—it is almost too soon in the month to expect a continuance of such weather, but from the general dryness of the atmosphere, the increasing cold, and the dews, we may hope that no material change will take place; a few showers, are looked for at this period, and if attended by moderate weather, may do no harm. Sunday next will be the day for re-hoisting the Fort Flag Staff.

The homeward bound Ship HONG is expected from Calcutta about Sunday next—and the MOIRA to follow almost immediately.

We have no further accounts of the PHOENIX. The letters from the Malabar Coast mention we understand the arrival of the ELIZA in England towards the end of June,—after a passage of more than five months.

The Performance by the Mount Actors for the benefit of the distressed Irish is to take place on Wednesday the 18th. The whole of the receipts will be applicable to the Charity, as the Proprietor of the Theatre has very properly given free use of the House on this benevolent occasion.

A Bachelor's Ball we understand is to be given on the 30th instant, and that one of the Gentlemen has obligingly offered the use of his House for this festive occasion.

From a Correspondent.—"We understand that a Subscription is on foot for a painting to be executed by that venerable and excellent Artist, Mr. Hickey, who in the 82d year of his age retains all the vigor and spirit of his earlier years, and whose portraits are remarkable for their fidelity and character. The subject of the painting is the learned Abbe Dubois, well known for his interesting work on the manners and customs of the Inhabitants of Southern India, with whom he has had opportunities of intercourse enjoyed by few Europeans.—The Abbe who is on the eve of quitting India to return to his Native Country, has kindly consented to sit for his portrait in the Braminical costume, usually worn by him.—The picture, we understand, is to be presented to the Madras Literary Society, of which the Abbe Dubois is an Honorary Member. It is proposed, however, if the number of Subscribers is sufficient to procure an engraving to be made from the painting, and to present a print to each Subscriber. The amount of Subscription is 35 Rupees, and the names of Subscribers are received by Messrs. Arbuthnot and Co."

Neelgherry and Shiva-rai Hills.—The subjoined communication respecting the Neelgherry and Shiva-rai Hills is from a professional Correspondent.

"An interest seems to have been recently taken in the Shiva-rai hills, situated near Salem, and a Correspondent who has lately furnished the public with a favorable description of them observes, that although the atmospheric temperature is below that of the most elevated parts of the Neelgherry, yet the cold is sufficiently intense,—and he further adds, that the easy access to the former, together with the facility of procuring supplies of food make them commodious, and comfortable to visitors.—The latter circumstance must render strangers, who may visit the Shiva-rai hills, much more comfortable than those who may resort to the Neelgherry, where such persons who may have the misfortune to be confined to the bed of sickness, would find their minds harassed with difficulties in procuring the comforts their cases would require, which would only tend to the injury of their health, but render their existence almost insupportable.—If these privations be ever removed, and suitable warm buildings be ever constructed for the use of invalids who may resort to the Neelgherry, a preference will undoubtedly be given to that station over the Shiva-rai hills,—for although the climates of both are much alike, the whole surface of the Neelgherry is abundantly supplied with wholesome water at all periods of the year, and is far removed from the thick, and extensive woods, that clothe the lower portion of this mountain;—which circumstances, together with the vicinity of the Neelgherry to the sea, and its easy approach thereby, give it a superiority far above the Shiva-rai hills.—Although the temperature of these mountains at their surfaces is very equable—as might be expected,—yet I apprehend that hygrometrical observations will discover, rather too sudden vicissitudes in the relative states of the weather.—The quick transitions from a dry, and serene atmosphere, to fogs, and drizzling rains, are too frequent proofs that the air undergoes quick

changes, from a state of saturation to the opposite extreme.—Although these vicissitudes are to be regretted, yet as the atmosphere of the Neelgherry is mostly dry, and keen,—it possesses in an eminent degree the property of promoting healthy digestion,—and as it appears to be peculiarly beneficial to Invalids suffering from those impaired states of the chylopoietic viscera, which so often succeed acute diseases of these organs in tropical climates, it is unfortunate that there are no dwellings on the mountain wherein a patient could preserve that equable state of animal heat, which is so indispensable in the severest kind of those complaints alluded to above,—especially as nine-tenths at least of such Invalids must require the use of medicines, which can only operate beneficially under those advantages.—These facts have been clearly demonstrated in the late suffering of those persons who have recently visited the Neelgherry; whilst labouring under the disadvantages of a constitution rendered unsuited to the sudden changes of the atmosphere, and especially to the impression of its rare, and chilling properties, by the nature of their diseases.—It should be recollected that the range of the thermometer forms too deceptive a criterion for judging of the effects of the climate on the human system,—and as this arises from a physical cause, which is well known, I need scarcely observe that although the temperature of the weather at Oudooconund (which place is situated in a sheltered, and pretty part of the Neelgherry,) is usually the same as that of the most temperate climates of the Globe, yet it cannot be presumed that visitors from the low country can expect to experience the like sensations of heat, and cold in either, as the contrast must be proportionable to the difference of atmospheric pressure, and vicissitudes of their respective climates.

“There can be no doubt that persons in a weak state of health, or recovering from a severe disorder require such shelter from the keen and damp currents of air which prevail at times at these Stations, as will enable them to preserve an equable degree of temperature—the want of supplies is also a great drawback—but in time these defects, may be remedied. It certainly appears that in this country Invalids, and others not very robust think too little of the effects of cold, and of such changes of temperature as these situations are liable to.—It is related that a justly celebrated Physician in London, upon a Gentleman, whose health was not sufficiently re-established, but who was about to embark again for India, expressing his dread of the effects of the heat of the climate, observed—The heat Sir? You have more to apprehend from the cold! by which it seems he meant the currents of cold air, that by the customs and contrivances in practice in this country, are brought to bear upon the human frame, heated to a great degree, and unfitted in other respects for the experiment.—“Instead of adapting yourselves to the climate and insuring yourselves to the heat,” continued he, “you have the same clothing, the same mode of living, as in Europe,—you have the fine sea breeze and the searching monsoon wind thrown upon your heads—you sit, with the perspiration flowing down and in currents of air, often artificially cooled—and then you are surprised you have Fever, Lambago, Rheumatism and other disorders—that the action of parts of so complicated a machine, as the human body is checked—and all this you attribute to the climate.—The enjoyment of a Fire is considered a luxury, in the winter with us—but do you think any person almost constantly in the enjoyment of this luxury, would be able to bear the vicissitudes of this climate, to which at any time he may be obliged to expose himself.—Certainly not.—Nor can any one giving himself up in the same way, to what you consider luxuries, bear the climate of India—you cry out for cold—cold—and if you can only obtain it—no matter how—you are satisfied.—Recollect I am not talking of exercise in the open air, when the sun is not too powerful—as your officers and troops never enjoy better health than when in the field, if I am rightly informed—I only speak of the practice of sitting quiescent, with a current of cold air blowing in a partial manner upon a body extremely heated.”—This Physician had never been in India we find, but he appears not to have been ill informed upon the customs he notices—many however may not be inclined to admit his conclusions, or to give up their own practice, for that which he appears to recommend.—Nov. 18, 1822.

Letter from Rajpootna.—We have been favored with the following Extract of a Letter, for which we offer our grateful thanks.

“By a Letter from Rajpootna of last month it appears that the new Corps of Mhairs or Mhairwaris forming in that quarter, is for the present stationed at Beour, where they are recruiting. This place is amongst the mass of hills westward of Nusserebad and Ajmeer, which form the great western range; and is about 30 miles distant from each of these places, and 8 kos from Jhag, formerly the strong-hold of the Mhair freeshooters. Beour is described as delightfully situated in a romantic part of the hills, and surrounded with a jungle abounding with tigers, leopards, bears, deer, hares, partridges, ducks and quail. In the deep pools frequently formed in the numerous clear streams in the neighbourhood, there is abundance of fish. The Cattle are fine, and so numerous that milk is sold at 60 seers the rupee, and half a pound of excellent butter for one anna. Altho’ so attractive a spot, it is not likely to be the permanent cantonment of the Local Corps. Some difficulty had been experienced in enlisting these Mhairs, and greater in retaining them;

but not more than was to be expected in subjecting men of their unsettled predatory independent habits to even the least restraints of regularity and discipline. They are characterized as wild savages, but courageous mountaineers, possessing all that lofty impatience of control and patient endurance of fatigue or local privation, which distinguish that class all over the world. They are a fine tall, muscular and athletic race with long beards, and strong general resemblance to the Seiks, which is assisted by their wearing large and loose small clothes exactly similar to the latter. With all their distaste to discipline and a certain tincture of ferocity in their character, it is anticipated that under mild and gentle treatment, they will at length be completed and drilled as a Corps; and that in time the better part of them will acquire with the habits, all the zeal and taste to fit them for the requisite subordination of our Army; and ultimately to introduce amongst them, all the acts of civilized life, with an attachment to our Government. The cantonment at Nusserebad had been greatly improved, and is now one of the most splendid and comfortable in India. Several fine Bungalows have sprung up in the Desert, and from the extreme regularity of the Lines, presented a handsome appearance, if not really magnificent. There is a fine Race-Course and a Racket Court. A Theatre and Ball Room are building; Subscription Balls have commenced, and it is altogether (excepting its remoteness) the most attractive station perhaps in India. The ancient city of Ajmeer has been greatly improved and almost re-edified under the able management of Mr. Wilder, and promises to rival Jypoor even. He has already done wonders.”—John Bull.

Who Beheaded Charles the First.

To the Editor of the Bengal Hurkaru.

SIR,

In the last GOVERNMENT GAZETTE is a paper, which I remember to have read some where before, I think in a Magazine, professing to afford a solution of the mystery regarding the person who beheaded King Charles the 1st. It is well known, that besides Doctor Juxton, who assisted the unfortunate Monarch in his devotions, there were two persons in masks upon the scaffold, one of whom was the actual Executioner who decapitated the King.—Who this regicide Traitor really was, is to this hour matter of doubt; and notwithstanding the positive manner in which the narration, respecting the circumstances connected with the history of Lord Stair’s Ancestor, is delivered; I am disposed to view the whole of that story as little better than a romanticable. The only certain information which has descended to us on this subject, is that afforded by Lilly the Astrologer, and I really see no good reason for refusing assent to his testimony, since it was delivered, in the first place, before a Committee of Parliament; in the second, because he asserts he received it from one of the masked men who were upon the scaffold; and lastly, because on account of his supposed Astrological acquirements, he possessed admirable opportunities of obtaining correct information; the absurd idolatrous fanaticism of the times, occasioning him to stand high in reputation both with the King and Parliament; and to be frequently consulted by both parties, as to the prospect of success in the momentous contest in which they were engaged.

It would appear from the following passage in “Lilly’s history of his Life and Times,” addressed to his patron and friend Mr. Ashmole, that it was by no means an easy matter to procure a person to commit the murderous act; and this circumstance, even if it stand alone which it does not, would sufficiently shew that the condemnations and above all the execution of the King, was the work of a faction, and did not meet with approbation from the general sense of the nation. For Lady Fairfax openly exclaimed in the Court, “That not half the people of England would be guilty of such a base crime;” and the only answer returned to this Lady’s reiterated exclamation, was an order to fire at her, delivered in most brutal terms to the soldiers.

The week, or three or four days before his Majesty’s beheading, says Lilly, one Major Sydenham, who had commands in Scotland, came to take his leave of me, and told me the King was to be put to death, which I was not willing to believe, and said, “I could not be persuaded the Parliament could find any Englishman so barbarous, that he would do that foul action.” “Rather,” saith he, “than they would want such a man, these arms of mine should do it.” “He went presently after into Scotland, and upon the first engagement against them, was slain, and his Lady miserably cut and mangled.” p. 96. The opinion of Lilly is confirmed by an old history of Scotland, in my possession, which says, “It was affirmed, that no Executioner would undertake the Horrid Murder, but fled the city; and that it was one Hulet, one of those Ruffians, who assisted at the Trial, that for a great reward, undertook and executed the Horrid Fact.” p. 162.

Lilly, however, on the other hand informs us, that “many have curiously enquired who it was that cut off his head: I have no permission to speak of such things; only thus much I say, he that did it, is as valiant and resolute a man as lives, and one of a competent fortune.”

But this reserve is completely thrown aside to his friend Mr. Ashmole, and accordingly he tells his patron: that "at my first appearance, (before the Parliamentary Committee) many of the young Members affronted me highly, and demanded several scurrilous questions. Mr. Weston held a paper before his mouth; made me answer nobody but Mr. Priinn; I obeyed his command, and saved myself much trouble thereby; and when Mr. Priinn put any difficult or doubtful query unto me, Mr. Weston prompted me with a fit answer. At last, after almost one hour's tagging, I desired to be fully heard what I could say, as to the person who cut Charles the First's head off. Liberty being given to speak, I related what follows:—viz.

"That the next Sunday, but one after Charles the First was beheaded, Robert Spavin, Secretary unto Lieutenant-General Cromwell at that time, invited himself to dine with me, and brought Anthony Peirson, and several others, along with him to dinner: That their principal discourse all dinner time, was only who it was that beheaded the King; one said it was the common hangman; another Hugh Peters; others also were nominated, but none concluded. Robert Spavin, so soon as dinner was done, took me by the hand, and carried me to the south window: They are all mistaken; they have not named the man that did the fact; it was *Lieutenant Colonel Joyce*; I was in the room when he fitted himself for the work, stood behind him when he did it; when done, went in again with him: There is no man knows this but my master, viz. Cromwell, Commissary Ireton, and myself." "Doth not Mr. Rushworth know it?" said I, "No he doth not know it," saith Spavin. The same thing Spavin since had often related unto me when we were alone, "Mr. Priinn did, with much civility, make a report hereof in the House."

Joyce is stated, in the History of Scotland before mentioned, to have been "a common Fellow, and a Taylor by Trade formerly," and no reasonable doubt, I think, ought to exist that he, and not Lord Stair's Ancestor, is justly entitled to the distinguished infamy of having been the Executioner of his Sovereign.

Your obedient Servant,

Allahabad, Dec. 13, 1822.

R. TYTLER.

River Navigation.

To the Editor of the India Gazette.

DEAR SIR,

My Boat has just been received upon the Parent Stream of the mighty Ganga. I came from Calcutta by that most sacred branch, the Bagratte, and I have had a most tedious passage to the junction. The Bagratte is very low for the season of the year; in some places so very shallow, that I had considerable difficulty in getting a light Budge-row over. Should there not be a great rise before the next rains, I fear this passage will be altogether shut. From Cutwa to a little beyond Jungpore, the navigation of this branch of the River is rendered extremely dangerous, from the great number of trees in it. I conceive they might be removed at very slight expence; some of them are quite sunk in the water, and their existence merely marked by slight bamboo poles erected on the spot, which in all probability will soon be swept away by the action of the strong current.

To the North of Moorshedabad one very large Tower or Bastion has fallen into the River, and it requires care to pass it: it is possible that a boat might come upon it at night. The banks of the Bagratte present every appearance of recent inundation.—From enquiries made at the villages on the banks, no great mortality appears to prevail; and by what I can learn, they appear to be free from Cholera. I had no opportunity of ascertaining if this disease prevailed in any great degree at Moorshedabad; this is a city, I believe, that has been much afflicted with this disease.—The usual passage into the great River by Seebgunge, is this season entirely shut up; but it is open by Mohungunge, which is much nearer. I came by this *Mohana*; near this entrance, a very large Indigo work has been almost destroyed by the great rise of the River: a great part has been carried away.

Your's truly,

A. F.

A little above the junction, the current of the Ganges runs with dreadful rapidity under the right bank. The bank is so loosened by the great rise of the River and heavy rains that a very slight action would precipitate immense masses of this bank, and of course would sink any boat that they struck.

Fortunately a large fleet has just got over this dangerous part of the River, without the slightest accident, although there was a very high wind blowing at the time against it.

Ganges, Dec. 3, 1822.

Marriage.

At Bombay, on the 25th ultimo, by the Reverend S. PYNE, Chaplain of Baroda, Camp, Mr. JAMES MALONE, Conductor of Ordnance, to Mrs. MARY ANN SAUNDERSON, widow of the late Sub-Conductor SAUNDERSON, of the same Department.

Shipping Arrival.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Dec. 27	Eugenia	British	A. Hogg	China	—

Shipping Departures.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Dec. 26	Mattilda	British	J. Marchant	Bourbon
26	Governor Phillips	British	T. L. Maingy	New S. Wales
26	Resistance	British	C. Fox	Madagascar
26	Nelly	British	J. T. Lintnor	Madras

BOMBAY.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
Nov. 22	Guide	British	H. Genive	Calcutta
24	Thetis	British	H. Wyndham	Surat
26	Helen	British	G. Langley	Muscat
26	Khalela	Arab	Nacoda Khallim	Mangalore
27	Virginia	French	L. M. de Marscelle	Mauritius
28	Bombay Merchant	British	J. Hill	Persian Gulf

Stations of Vessels in the River.

CALCUTTA, DECEMBER 26, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—H. C. S. COLDSTREAM.—WILLIAM MONEY, MARY ANN, CARRON, HYDERBY, and NANCY, (F.) outward-bound, remain,—LADY FLORA, inward-bound, remains,—NIMROD, (brig), passed up.

Kedgeree.—His Majesty's Frigate GLASGOW,—GENERAL LECOR, (P.) outward-bound, remains,—LIVERPOOL, inward-bound, remains,—AGINCOURT, and ALMORAH, passed down.

New Anchorage.—H. C. Ships GENERAL HEWITT, WARREN HASTINGS, MARCHIONESS OF ELY, WINCHELSEA, DORSETSHIRE, and PRINCE REGENT.

Saugor.—H. C. Ship DAVID SCOTT, inward-bound, remains.

Passengers.

List of Passengers per Ship EUGENIA, Captain A. Hogg, from China the 1st of November, and Singapore the 24th ditto.

From Macao —Mr. J. Russel, of the Country Service. From Singapore.—Captain P. P. Morgan, N. L., and Alexander Robertson, Esq.

Ships Advertised for Different Ports.

Ships' Names.	Commanders.	Where Bound.	Probable time of Sailing.
Prince of Orange,	— Moncriff, ...	London, ...	Early in Feb.
Apollo, ...	George Tennent, ...	Madras & London	10th January
Hibernia, ...	— Mackintosh, ...	London, ...	15th January
Providence, ...	Samuel Owen, ...	Madras & London	All January
Lady Raffles, ...	James Coxwell, ...	London, ...	Early in Jan.
Larkins, ...	H. R. Wilkinson, ...	London, ...	15th Jan.
Catherine, ...	W. Knox, ...	London, ...	15th Jan.
Phoenix, ...	J. Weatherhead, ...	London, ...	In a few days
La Belle Alliance,	W. Rolfe, ...	London, ...	Early in Jan.
John Taylor, ...	— Atkinson, ...	Liverpool, ...	1st January
Franklin, ...	B. Chirop, ...	Isle of France } & Bourdeaux, }	1st Jan.
Tiger, ...	Robert Brash, ...	C. of G. Hope, ...	15th Jan.
Bordelais, ...	— Gallais, ...	Bourdeaux, ...	Early in Jan.
Alexander, ...	— Dickie, ...	For the Eastward	30th Jan.
Valletta,	China, ...	In a few days
Governor Phillips,	T. L. Maingy, ...	New S. Wales,	In a few days

Births.

At Bombay, on the 3d instant, the Lady of WILLIAM C. BRUCE, Esq. of the Civil Service, of a Daughter.

At Poona, on the 30th ultimo, the Lady of the Reverend T. ROBINSON, of a Son.

At Chowke, near Malwan, on the 21st ultimo, the Lady of Captain GRAY, of the 2d Regiment of Native Infantry, of a Son.